

Ragnarok

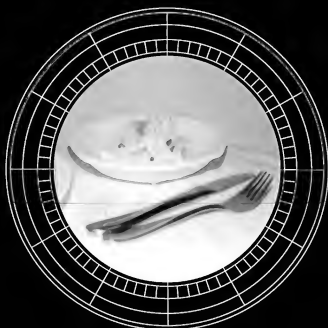


PARENTAL ADVISORY
MATURE
CONTENT

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED

Story by **TSUNED TAKANO**

Art by **TAKESHI OBATA**



鷹野常雄

Tsunao Takano

I don't mind being asked which I prefer, potato salad or macaroni salad, but you should at least tell me that it's coming with pasta.

You shouldn't be asking such questions anyway, but if you're going to, I'd rather be asked what kind of *pasta* I prefer!



Tsunao Takano

Born in Tokyo.

No hobbies.

No expression.

No interests.

No harm.

Nothing to say.

Takeshi Obata was born in 1969 in Niigata, Japan, and is the artist of the wildly popular SHONEN JUMP title *Hikaru no Go*, which won the 2003 Tezuka Shinsei "New Hope" award and the Shogakukan Manga award. Obata is also the artist of *Arabian Majin Bokentan Lamp Lamp*, *Ayatsuri Sakon*, *Cyborg Jichan G*, and the smash hit manga *Death Note*.

RALΩGRAD

Vol. 1

The SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED
Manga Edition

Story By TSUNEO TAKANO
Art By TAKESHI OBATA

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SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED
Manga Edition

Story by
Tsuneo Takano

Art by
Takeshi Obata

Vol. 1
Promise



RalooGrath

Vol. 1 Promise

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DEAD or ALIVE

- 1 Pirate
- 2 Dragon master
- 3 Wizard

A Piece supplement from this star is possible at any time

B The latest information

○ Demon-Gedro VS Medium-Cist X 5-5

○ VS X

X VS ○

X VS ○

C The latest information

X Red Pirates VS Skull Pirates ○ 3-2

X VS ○

D Lack of ni rfa Awaiting piece supplement, the entry is possible at any time

E The latest information

X Witch-Gray pink VS Witch-Zerc hunter ○ 18-0

○ VS X

○ VS X

F Topics BLUE DRAGON start

FACE 1 Promise





CORRECT.

A
SHADOW.

CORRECT.
NEXT ONE.
FIFTEEN
HORNS
AND SEVEN
STINGER
TAILS...

A
SHADOW.

OKAY,
IT HAS
SIX EYES
AND
TWELVE
LEGS...

BUT
THIS IS
BORING.

ME
NEITHER...
I'VE NEVER
EVEN SEEN
SHADOWS.
I'M JUST
ANSWERING
"SHADOW" TO
EVERYTHING
THAT DOESN'T
SOUND
HUMAN.

WELL,
I HAVEN'T
PROPERLY
SEEN THE
WORLD OF
LIGHT,
APART
FROM
HUMANS.

GRAD,
THE LAST
TWENTY
QUESTIONS
HAVE ALL
BEEN
SHADOWS.

HEY!

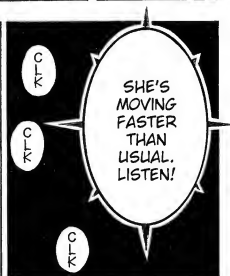
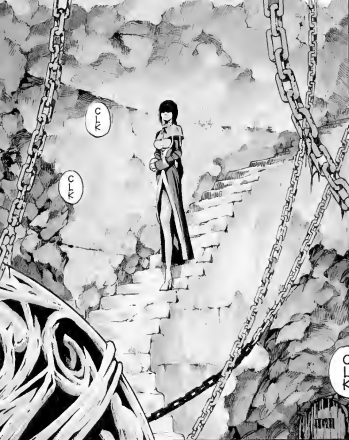
CASH

I HEAR
MY TUTOR
COMING.
MAYBE THEY'LL
FINALLY
LET US OUT
TODAY.

NO.
I'M SICK
OF SHIRITORI
AND YOU'RE
NO GOOD
AT IT,
GRAD.

I'D
LIKE
THAT.

DO YOU
WANT
TO PLAY
THAT
WORD GAME
YOUR
TUTOR
CALLS
"SHIRITORI"?



RalΩGrach

ARE YOU
SURE I
SHOULD BE
THE ONE
MAKING
DECISIONS,
GRAD?

...KILL
THE
CREATURE
WHO
WRECKED
THE WORLD
OF
DARKNESS.

DO THAT.
WE'LL TAKE
REVENGE
ON THE
HUMANS
WHO LOCKED
US UP AND
THEN...

I'LL
EXPLAIN
OUR
SITUATION
AGAIN. MAYBE
THIS TIME
THEY'LL
SET US
FREE.

AS
SOON
AS
WE'RE
IN
THE LIGHT,
YOU CAN.

YOUR
POWER
...
BOY,
I'D LIKE
TO TEST
THAT
OUT.

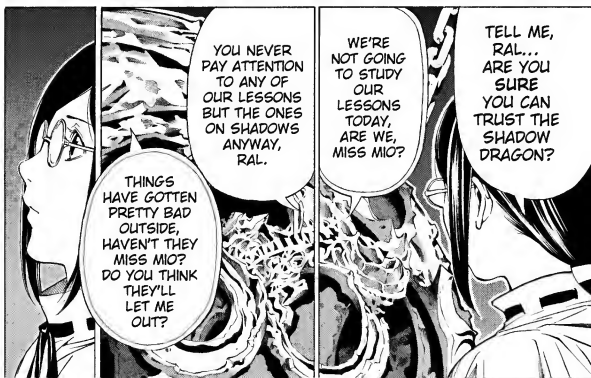
HUMANS
ARE
SMARTER,
RAL.
THAT'S WHY
I LIVE
WITHIN YOUR
BODY,
GIVING YOU
MY POWER
ALONG
WITH MY
FLESH AND
BLOOD.

LIGHT...
I
WONDER
WHAT
THAT'S
LIKE...



YES,
MISS
MIO!!

RAL,
ARE
YOU
AWAKE?



THINGS
HAVE GOTTEN
PRETTY BAD
OUTSIDE,
HAVEN'T THEY
MISS MIO?
DO YOU THINK
THEY'LL
LET ME
OUT?

YOU NEVER
PAY ATTENTION
TO ANY OF
OUR LESSONS
BUT THE ONES
ON SHADOWS
ANYWAY,
RAL.

WE'RE
NOT GOING
TO STUDY
OUR
LESSONS
TODAY,
ARE WE,
MISS MIO?

TELL ME,
RAL...
ARE YOU
SURE
YOU CAN
TRUST THE
SHADOW
DRAGON?



YES!
HONEST!

IF YOU
DO WANT
TO COME
OUT,
I NEED
TO BE
CERTAIN...
CAN YOU
CONTROL
THE
DRAGON?

BUT...

I'M JUST
YOUR
TUTOR,
RAL.
I DON'T
KNOW.



THE DRAGON
KNEW THAT
WOULD BE
A WASTE,
SO WE
SHARE
HIS POWER
INSTEAD.

I KNOW
A LOT OF
SHADOWS
CONSUME
THEIR HUMAN
HOSTS,
BUT...



WE CAN
BEAT
ANY
SHADOW
OUT THERE,
I KNOW
IT!

LOOK,
THE DRAGON
HATES
THE PRESENT
SHADOW QUEEN.
HE THINKS THAT
WITH HIS POWER
AND MY BRAINS,
WE CAN
TOPPLE
HER.

I UNDER-
STAND MY
SITUATION.
I KNOW
THAT
SOMETHING
CALLED
A SHADOW
ENTERED
INTO ME
AND THAT
IT DOESN'T
HAVE A
REAL BODY
OF ITS
OWN...

THE REST
IS JUST...
THE WALL...
AND
CONVERSATIONS
WITH GRAD
IN MY
HEAD.

I KNOW
THAT I'M HERE
BECAUSE
I CAN TOUCH
MY BODY.
I CAN
ROUGHLY
UNDERSTAND
MY FORM, TOO.

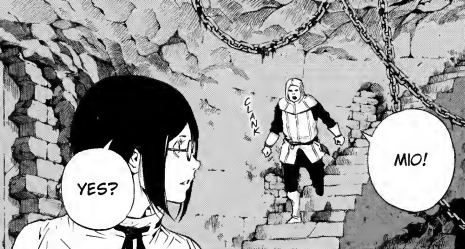
THIS
IS MY
HAND.
I CAN
TOUCH
MY
FACE.

OUT
THERE...

COLOR?
VISION?
I CAN'T
QUITE
IMAGINE
IT...

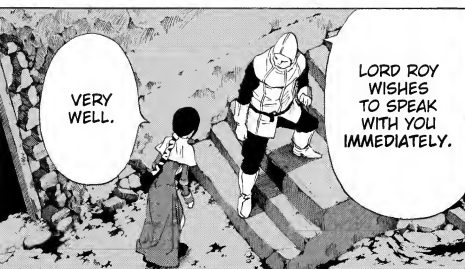
BUT
NOW
THAT IT
SEEMS
I MAY
BE SET
FREE...

I KNOW I'VE BEEN
IN THIS PLACE
FOR 15 YEARS...
SINCE JUST AFTER
I WAS BORN. TO ME
THIS IS NORMAL.
I FEEL SAFE HERE.
THE IDEA OF LEAVING
SOMETIMES SCARES ME.
I'VE EVEN WONDERED
IF I WOULDN'T BE
BETTER OFF
DYING HERE...



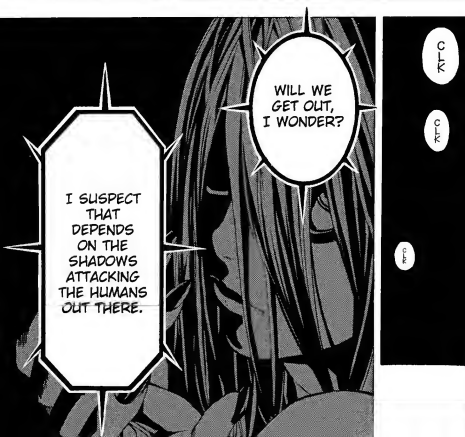
YES?

MIO!



VERY WELL.

LORD ROY
WISHES
TO SPEAK
WITH YOU
IMMEDIATELY.



WILL WE
GET OUT,
I WONDER?

I SUSPECT
THAT
DEPENDS
ON THE
SHADOWS
ATTACKING
THE HUMANS
OUT THERE.

C
K
L

C
K
L

C
K
L

I
WANT TO
SEE THE
OUTSIDE
WORLD...
I WANT
TO FEEL...
TO
EXPERIENCE...



HOLD YOUR
POSITIONS,
MEN!
THEY CAN'T
BE ALLOWED
TO ADVANCE
!!



AARGH!

DOOM



LORD ROY,
WE HAVE
NO OPTION
LEFT BUT
THE
DRAGON...



EVERYONE
KNOWS
THE DRAGON
AND ITS HOST
HAVE BEEN
SEALED IN
THE DUNGEON
FOR 15 YEARS--

AND DO
YOU KNOW
WHAT IT
MEANS TO RISK
BRINGING THAT
CREATURE
INTO THE
LIGHT?



CLK

MY LORD,
I BELIEVE
IT IS SAFE
TO BRING
THE SHADOW
OUT!

MIO!



DO

IT'S
NO GOOD!
THE
SHADOW
LEGIONS
HAVE
BROKEN
THROUGH!!



AND
THOSE
BORN OF
DARKNESS.

THOSE
BELONGING
TO THE
WORLD
OF LIGHT...

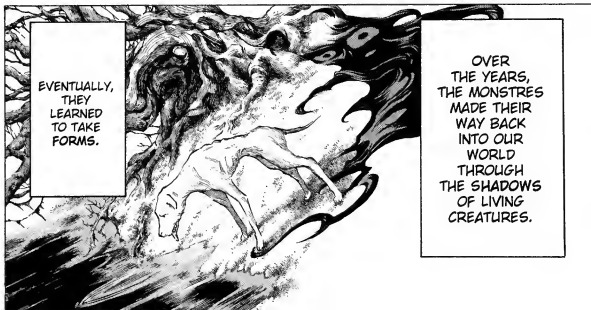
...CAN BE
DIVIDED
INTO
TWO
TYPES...

ALL
LIVING
BEINGS
...



WE CALL
THEM
SHADOWS.
LEGEND
HAS IT
THAT GOD
RECOGNIZED
THEIR
EVIL NATURE
AND EXILED
THEM FROM
THE LIGHT.

JUST LIKE
THEIR WORLD,
THE
CREATURES
OF
DARKNESS--
DEMONIC
BEASTS, OR
MONSTRES--
LACK A THIRD
DIMENSION.



EVENTUALLY,
THEY
LEARNED
TO TAKE
FORMS.

OVER
THE YEARS,
THE MONSTRES
MADE THEIR
WAY BACK
INTO OUR
WORLD
THROUGH
THE SHADOWS
OF LIVING
CREATURES.

**THE THIRD FORM:
TRANSFORMATIVES**

A CREATURE OF THE THIRD ORDER IS CAPABLE OF DEVASTATING DESTRUCTION...

**THE SECOND FORM:
PREDATORS**

A CREATURE OF THE SECOND ORDER CONSUMES THE FLESH AND SPIRIT OF ITS HOST AND IS THUS ABLE TO MANIFEST TWO SHAPES AT WILL.

**THE FIRST FORM:
PARASITICS**

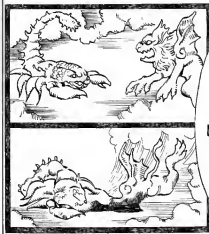
A CREATURE OF THE FIRST ORDER CAN MANIFEST ITS OWN SHAPE FROM THE SHADOW OF ITS HOST-- PROVIDED IT HAS THE PERMISSION OF THAT HOST.



A SHADOW WOULD BE INCAPABLE OF FAKING THE KIND OF CONVERSATION RAL CARRIES ON FROM HIS PRISON EVERYDAY.

AT PRESENT, WE KNOW ONLY OF THESE THREE FORMS. RAL IS, AT THE VERY LEAST, NOT OF THE SECOND FORM.

can manifest in any shape or combination of shapes they have consumed, but though they are not above devouring humans, doing so has not been shown to markedly increase their intelligence.



THIRDS
DEVOUR
SECONDS
OR OTHER
LIVING BEINGS
AND ABSORB
THEIR
ABILITIES.

NO...

COULD
HE BE
A
THIRD?

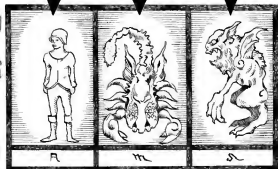
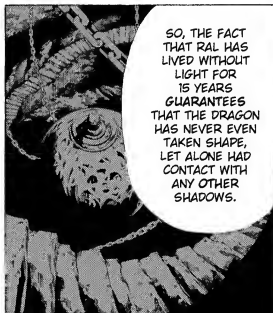
AND
SHADOWS
CANNOT
MANIFEST
IN
ABSOLUTE
DARKNESS.



THEY CAN MANIFEST
ANY SHAPE OR
COMBINATION OF SHAPES
THEY HAVE CONSUMED,
BUT THOUGH THEY ARE
NOT ABOVE
DEVOURING HUMANS,
DOING SO HAS NOT
BEEN SHOWN TO
MARKEDLY INCREASE
THEIR INTELLIGENCE.



SO, THE FACT
THAT RAL HAS
LIVED WITHOUT
LIGHT FOR
15 YEARS
GUARANTEES
THAT THE DRAGON
HAS NEVER EVEN
TAKEN SHAPE,
LET ALONE HAD
CONTACT WITH
ANY OTHER
SHADOWS.





FIFTEEN YEARS
AGO WE DIDN'T
KNOW ABOUT
THE SHADOWS...
HUMANS BICKERED
OVER LAND
AND FOUGHT
SENSELESS WARS...



I
CAN'T
SLEEP
!!

D
O
O
N

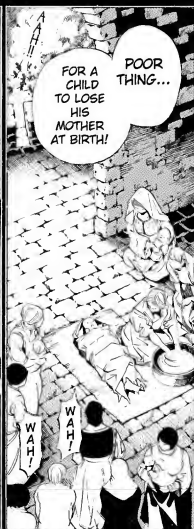


WHAT
THE--?
THE INFANT
SPEAKS...

IMPOS-
SIBLE...

COULD
EVERYONE
PLEASE
HOLD
DOWN
THE
RACKET
?!

ZHI ZHI ZHI



FOR A
CHILD
TO LOSE
HIS
MOTHER
AT BIRTH!

POOR
THING...

WAH!
WAH!



IN A FLASH,
IT SCORCHED
THE MOUNTAINS
AS FAR AS
THE EYE
COULD SEE.
EVEN MELTING
THE STONES...

A
DRAGON
APPEARED
FROM
THE
INFANT
...



AND SO
THE INFANT
RAL WAS
SEALED UP
BEHIND
COUNTLESS
DOORS
DEEP BELOW
THE CASTLE
IN A PITCH
BLACK PRISON
...

...AND
THERE
HE HAS
REMAINED
FOR THESE
15 YEARS.



TAKE
IT AWAY
FROM
THE
LIGHT.

HE SAID
THERE
WAS ONLY
ONE WAY TO
CONTAIN A
SHADOW...



MY LATE FATHER
OFTEN SPOKE
OF SHADOWS,
BEASTS OF BLACKNESS
THAT ENTERED A
BODY THROUGH
ITS DARK REFLECTION.





IN THE
MONTHS
FOLLOWING
RAL'S
INCARCER-
ATION,
A HORDE
OF SHADOWS
INVADED
OUR
WORLD
...

THEY ORGANIZED,
NAMING OPSQURIA
THEIR QUEEN
AND SETTING
OUT TO
"SAVE" THE
WORLD FROM
HUMANS BY
DESTROYING
ALL MANKIND.

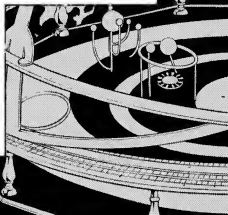
HERE,
THEY
BEGAN
TO
MULTIPLY.



THE POWER
DISPARITY
BETWEEN
HUMANITY
AND ITS
ENEMY IS
ABUNDANTLY
EVIDENT...

AT THE
CURRENT PACE,
THE WAR FOR
OUR WORLD
AND OUR SOULS
WILL SOON BE
UTTERLY LOST.

IT IS
ESTIMATED
THAT IN 15
YEARS' TIME,
HALF THE
WORLD'S
POPULATION
HAS FALLEN
TO SHADOW
POSSESSION.







I
DO.







IT'S ALL
SO WIDE...
IT'S...

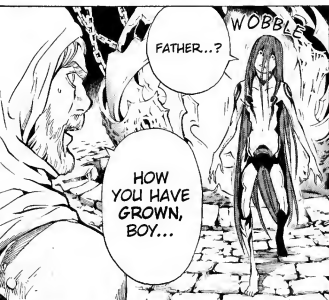
SPACE...



COLOR
...



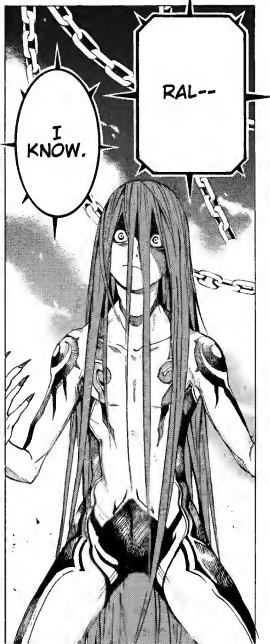
THE
OUTSIDE...



FATHER...?

WOBBLE

HOW
YOU HAVE
GROWN,
BOY...



I
KNOW.

RAL--



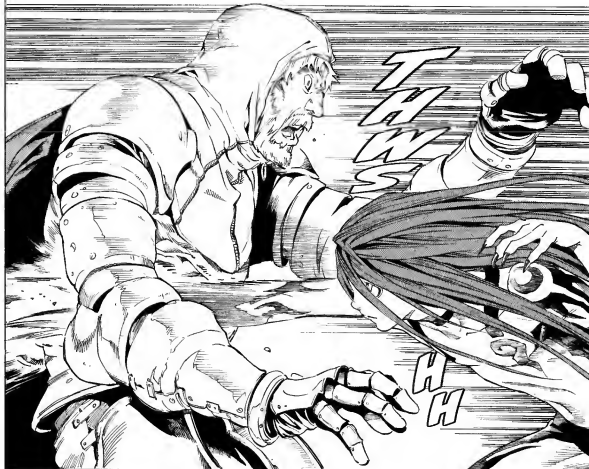
I MADE
GRAD A
PROMISE.

DASH



?!

POP





THE
DRAGON
AND
I SWORE
AN OATH.

UNFORGIV-
ABLE!!

IS IT
UNFORGIVABLE
TO TAKE
REVENGE ON
THE ONE
WHO
IMPRISONED
YOU?

SWISH

LAUGH
...



I'M NOT
BEING
CONTROLLED
BY THE
DRAGON.

HUH?
WHAT
ARE
THEY
SAYING?



RAL...



WHAT
DOES A
FATHER
DESERVE
WHO
IMPRISONS
HIS SON
FOR
15
YEARS...?

PARENTS
LOVE
THEIR
CHILDREN.
MISS MIO
TAUGHT
ME THAT.



SHING

YOU
SWORE
AN OATH
AGAINST
YOUR
FATHER
?!



THE DRAGON
NEVER
IMAGINED
A FATHER
COULD LOCK
UP HIS
OWN SON...

THE BABE
DIDN'T
KNOW,
BUT THE
DRAGON
DID.

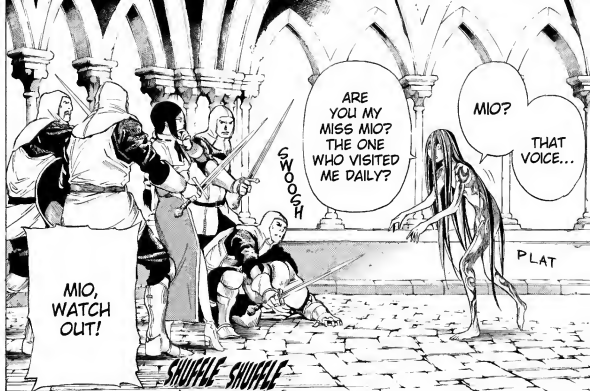


NO!
I
NEVER
SAID.

DID YOU
--?

HOW DOES
HE KNOW
IT WAS
LORD ROY
WHO SHUT
HIM AWAY?

M-
MADNESS
!



ARE YOU MY MISS MIO? THE ONE WHO VISITED ME DAILY?

MIO? THAT VOICE...

MIO, WATCH OUT!

SHUFFLE SHUFFLE

SWOOSH

PLAT



I SAID HALT!

AH!



WHY?

HALT, BOY!

ZHH



MIO...?





...THANK
YOU.



YOU ARE MY
STUDENT, RAL.
I BELIEVE
IN YOU.



YOU
SAVED
ME.

MISS
MIO...



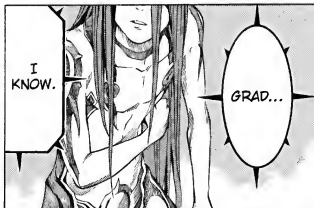
THOSE
ARE
SWORDS,
RAL.

THOSE
THINGS...
THEY
HURT!



LISTEN TO
THE
INNOCENCE
IN THAT
VOICE...
SURELY
THERE IS
GOODNESS
IN THAT
CHILD.

LISTEN...



I
KNOW.

GRAD...



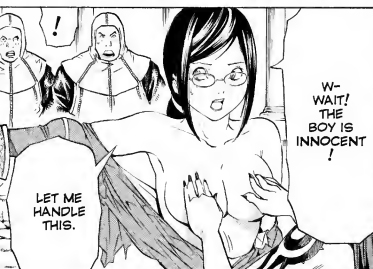
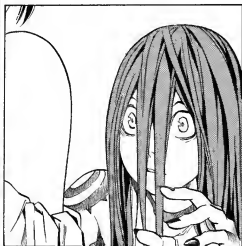
ER,
WELL,
NO...
THAT'S
BECAUSE
I'M...

BETTER
?

Y-YES
...

TH-THE
DRAGON
ATE
OUR
SWORDS!





STOP THIS
FOOLISHNESS!

IS
THIS
WRONG?
IT FEELS
SO
GOOD.

HOW
ABOUT
HERE?

YOU
SMELL
NICE,
TOO.

MIO,
YOU'RE
SOFT.
YOU FEEL
NICE.



BUT...YOU
SHOULDN'T
DO IT
IN FRONT
OF PEOPLE.

WHY
NOT?

IT'S OKAY,
RAL.
IT'S NATURAL
FOR BOYS
TO LIKE
GIRLS.

YOU
NEVER
EVEN HAD
A MOTHER
TO TOUCH,
DID YOU?





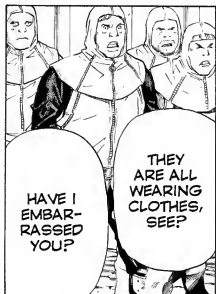
ER, YES...
BUT IF YOU
DEFEAT
THE
SHADOWS,
YOU WILL BE
DRAPED
IN THE
RICHEST
OF ROBES.

I'M NAKED.
SHOULD
I BE
EMBARRASSED
?

NUDITY...
MEN AND
WOMEN
TOUCHING
EACH OTHER...
PEOPLE
FIND THESE
THINGS
EMBARRASSING,
RAL.



YES.
BUT IT'S
MY OWN
FAULT
BECAUSE
I DIDN'T
TEACH
YOU
ABOUT
WOMEN.



HAVE I
EMBAR-
RASSED
YOU?

THEY
ARE ALL
WEARING
CLOTHES,
SEEP?



OKAY,
MIO--

YOU HAVE
A PLAN,
THEN.
I'LL LEAVE
THE
DETAILS
TO YOU.

I WON'T
LINGER.
WE HAVE TO
FIGHT OUR WAY
THROUGH
THE LITTLE
SHADOWS
TO GET TO
THE BIG
ONES.

AS LONG
AS YOU
DON'T
GET US
KILLED,
THE FIGHT
OUTSIDE
CAN WAIT.

GRAD,
DO WE HAVE
TO GO AND
FIGHT RIGHT
NOW OR
CAN WE
WAIT A
MINUTE?







YOU
WANT
ME TO
GET
RID OF
THEM?

YES,
RAL.



OKAY,
LET'S
DO THIS.

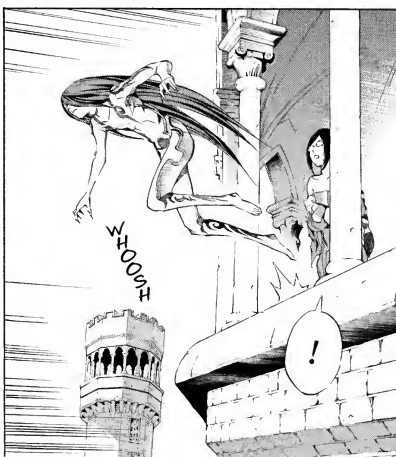
PLAY
PLAY

KOR
KOR



GRAD,
LET'S
FLY.

NO
PROB-
LEM.



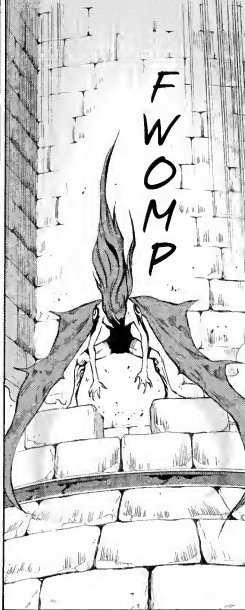
WHOOH

!





YOU
SURE
ARE A
NOISY
BUNCH.





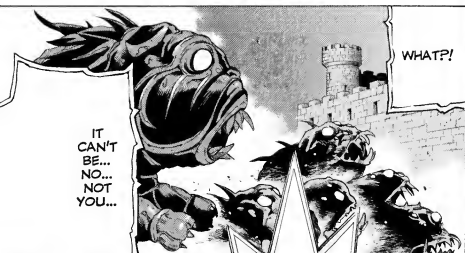




IT'S
BLUE...

DON DON DON

IT'S
HERE!



IT
CAN'T
BE...
NO...
NOT
YOU...

WHAT?!



NO!
NOT A
FIRST
OR A
THIRD...

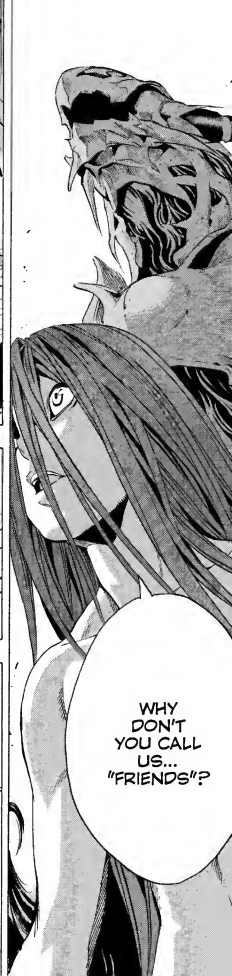
IF YOU
MUST
CALL US
SOME-
THING...

THE
DÉLIRE-
MONSTRE!
THE
DRAGON!!

NO,
A
THIRD...

IT'S
GOT
TO BE
A
FIRST.





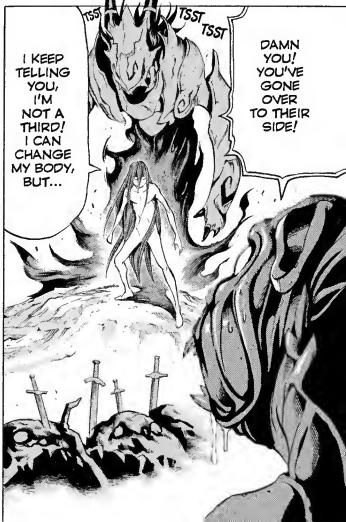


GRAD.



PFFT.
WE
WOULDN'T
WASTE
OUR FLAMES
ON PEONS
LIKE YOU.







I TOLD
YOU I
WOULDN'T.

A-ARE YOU
GOING TO
BURN ME
WITH YOUR
FLAME?



EVEN THE
CHEEKY
HUMAN
UNDER-
ESTIMATES
ME.

OKAY,
MISS
MIO!



RAL,
THAT ONE
MUST BE
A THIRD.
BE
CAREFUL!



IF YOU'RE
NOT GOING
TO USE
THE
FLAME...

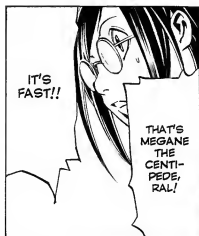
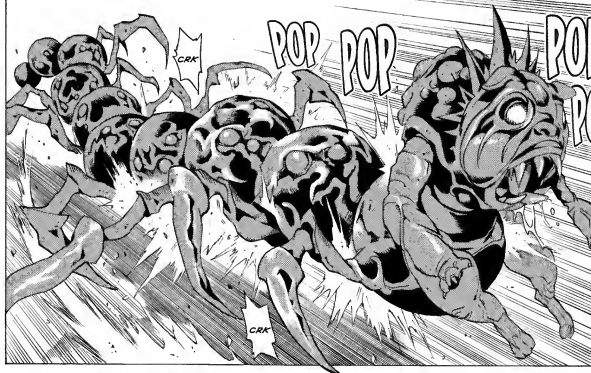
CRACK

POP



Y-YOU
DEFINITELY
WON'T
USE THE
FLAME...?

I SAID
WE
WOULDN'T.



THAT'S
MEGANE
THE
CENTI-
PEDE,
RAL!



IT
TRANS-
FORMED!



AND
I'M
MAKING
A RUN
FOR IT!!

THAT'S
RIGHT!



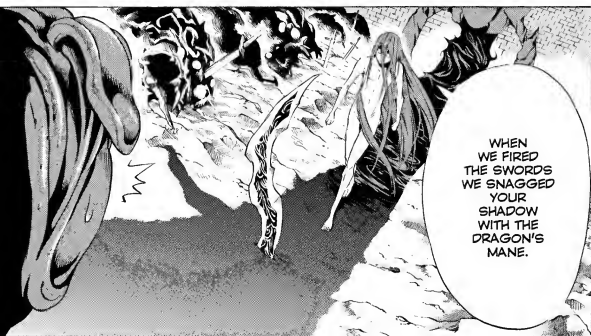


WH-
WHAT
IS
THAT
?!

I-I
CAN'T
MOVE!



S
K
I
D



WHEN
WE FIRED
THE SWORDS
WE SNAGGED
YOUR
SHADOW
WITH THE
DRAGON'S
MANE.



YOUR
MOVE.

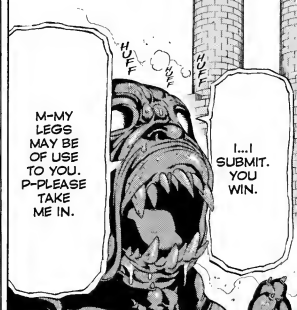


HE
REALLY
REMEMBERS
HIS
LESSONS!

A SHADOW'S
SHADOW
IS PART
OF ITS BODY.
STICK IT WITH
THE DRAGON'S
MANE AND
IT STAYS
STUCK.



YOU'LL
DIE.



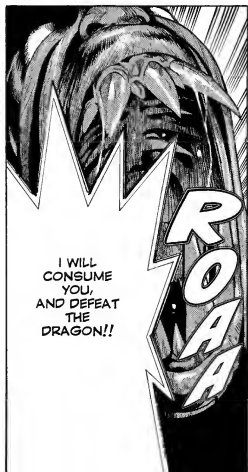
M-MY
LEGS
MAY BE
OF USE
TO YOU.
P-PLEASE
TAKE
ME IN.

I...I
SUBMIT.
YOU
WIN.



TH-THAT
IS
ENOUGH.

I-I UNDERSTAND.
B-BUT I WOULD
LIVE ON AS
PART OF THAT
MAGNIFICENT
DRAGON.



I WILL
CONSUME
YOU,
AND DEFEAT
THE
DRAGON!!



IDIOT!
YOU
LOOKED
AWAY!



WELL
...

WHAT
SAY
YOU
?



GRAD...
GET
BIG.

OKAY,
RAL.



DON

AHHH!

DON

DON

DON

DON

IT'S--
IT'S
HUGE!!



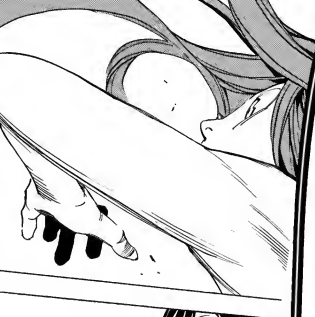
ACK!

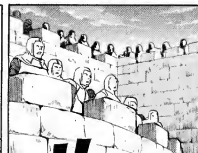
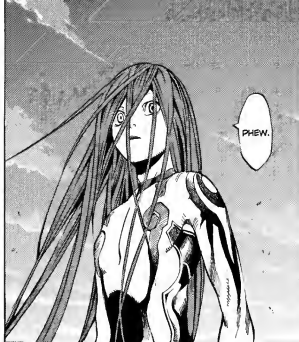
SLAK

EVEN
ITS
MANE IS
ENORMOUS
!!

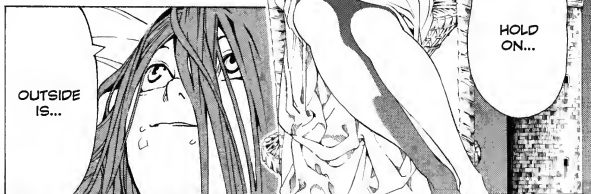
THE
DRAGON'S
TRUE
FORM!!

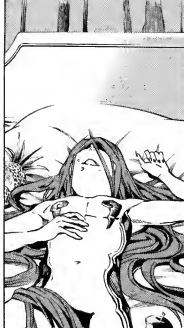






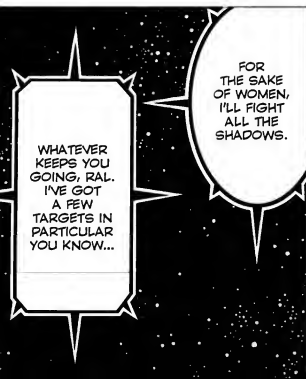






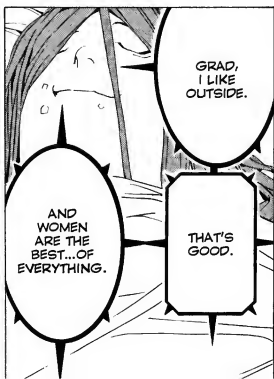
KEEP US
SAFE AND
I PROMISE
TO SHOW
YOU EVEN
MORE BEAUTY
IN THIS
WORLD.

I'M
HAPPY
TOO,
RAL.



WHATEVER
KEEPS YOU
GOING, RAL.
I'VE GOT
A FEW
TARGETS IN
PARTICULAR
YOU KNOW...

FOR
THE SAKE
OF WOMEN,
I'LL FIGHT
ALL THE
SHADOWS.



AND
WOMEN
ARE THE
BEST...OF
EVERYTHING.

THAT'S
GOOD.

RalΩGrach



TALE2 Back



THE FIRST FORM: PARASITICS

- A SHADOW OF THE FIRST ORDER ENTERS ITS HOST THROUGH THE LIVING BEING'S SHADOW. THE TWO SOULS CO-EXIST IN ONE BODY.
- WITH SOME LIMITATIONS, A FIRST CAN MANIFEST ITS SHAPE FROM THE SHADOW OF ITS HOST, BUT IT MUST HAVE BUILT UP ADEQUATE POWER WITHIN THE HOST AND IT MUST HAVE THE HOST'S PERMISSION.
- IN THE ABSENCE OF LIGHT, THE HOST PRODUCES NO SHADOW AND THE FIRST CANNOT TAKE SHAPE NOR DISPLAY ITS TALENTS.
- FIRSTS CAN MOVE FROM ONE LIVING BEING INTO ANOTHER. THEY ACQUIRE THE ABILITIES OF ANYONE OR ANYTHING THEY CONSUME.
- WHEN THE WORLD OF DARKNESS IS RESTORED, FIRSTS CAN RETURN TO THEIR HOME.

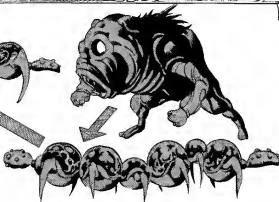


THE SECOND FORM: PREDATORS

- A SHADOW OF THE SECOND ORDER CONSUMES ITS HOST FROM THE INSIDE, TAKING THE HOST'S FLESH AND SPIRIT AS ITS OWN. A SECOND CAN MANIFEST EITHER ITS OWN SHAPE OR THAT OF ITS HOST, WITH NO CONSTRAINTS OF TIME OR LIGHT.
- IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT IF A SECOND HAS BECOME A SECOND IN A PLACE OF DARKNESS WITHIN THE WORLD OF LIGHT, IT CANNOT MANIFEST SHAPE UNTIL IT RETURNS TO A PLACE OF LIGHT.



THE THIRD FORM: TRANSFORMATIVES



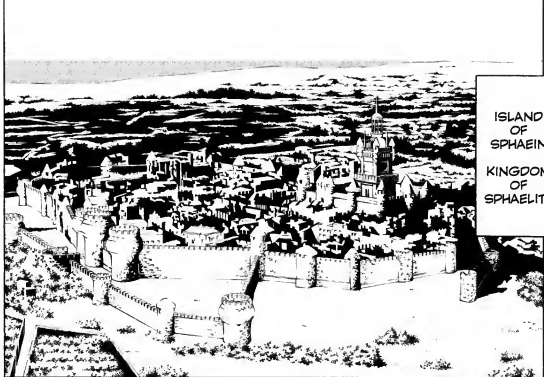
- A THIRD IS A SECOND THAT HAS AUGMENTED ITS ABILITIES BY CONSUMING ANOTHER SECOND OR LIVING BEING. IT CAN MANIFEST ANY SHAPE OR ANY COMBINATION OF SHAPES IT HAS CONSUMED.
- AUGMENTATION HOWEVER, IS LIMITED BY THE ORIGINAL SIZE AND STRENGTH OF THE INDIVIDUAL SHADOW. AUGMENTATION BEYOND THAT POINT MAY CAUSE REJECTION AND RESULT IN DEATH.
- SECONDS AND THIRDS HAVE CONSUMED THE BODIES OF BEINGS OF LIGHT AND THUS CANNOT RETURN TO THE WORLD OF DARKNESS, SHOULD IT BE RESTORED.

SPECIAL FUSION FORM: FRIENDS

(AT PRESENT ONLY
RAL AND GRAD
ARE KNOWN TO EXIST.)



- THIS FORM IS ESSENTIALLY LIKE A FIRST, BUT IT IS UNIQUE IN THAT THE HOST ALSO RECEIVES BLOOD AND FLESH FROM THE SHADOW AND IS THEREFORE ABLE TO MANIFEST THE SHADOW'S UNIQUE POWERS WITHIN ITS BODY.



ISLAND
OF
SPHAEIN

KINGDOM
OF
SPHAELITE



RAL!
I KNOW
YOU'RE
IN
THERE...

CREAK



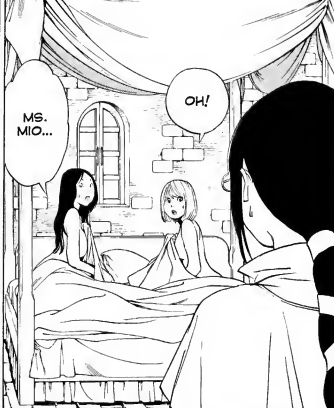
KNOCK

KNOCK

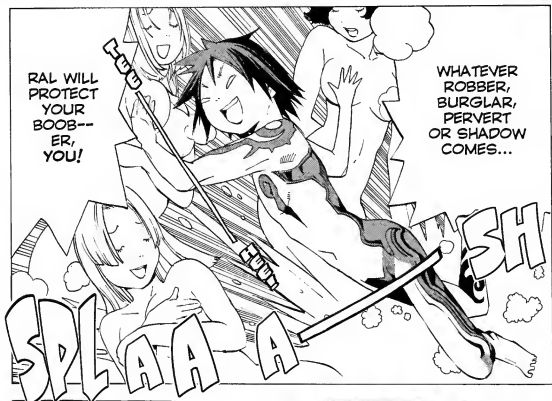


!!

RAL!
IT'S TIME
FOR YOUR
LESSON!









DOOM

DOON

DOON

DOON DOON

DO YOU
FIND ME
BEAUTIFUL?

O!
BERY,
BERY
BOODI-
FOO!

JUGIL
CASTLE

THE
FORMER
COUNTRY
OF KABIL

BEASTS
OF
DESIRE...





LADY
BIRA,
LADY
BIRA!

BOODIFOO,
BOODIFOO!

GIMME
YOUR
PANTIES,
LADY!



WHO'S
MORE
BEAUTIFUL?
LADY BIRA
OR THIS
HUMAN
HOST?

LADY
BIRA!

LADY
BIRA!
LADY
BIRA!



DOOOOM

DOO!

LOOK
AT ME!
LOOK
AT ME!

PANT
PANT

TOO,
TOO
MUCH!

WUVERLY!
WUVERLY!

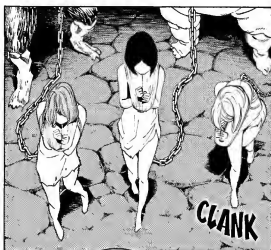


VERY WELL.
WHAT
DO YOU
OFFER
ME?

YES!

DO YOU
WANT TO
TOUCH
MY BEAUTY?
DO YOU
WANT ME?

HEH
HEH
HEH.



CLANK



NUH-UH,
STUPID!
GIRL FROM
NAMUN,
THE BEST!

NO!
THIS GIRL
FROM
JIA WAY
BETTER.

DIS ONE
A PRINCESS
FROM
COUNTRY
OF BAL.
SHE MAKE
LADY BIRA
MORE
BOODIFOO.





HER
BRAIN
IS AS
DELICIOUS
AS HER
BODY.

MMM...
NOT BAD,
THIS
GIRL.



I AM
ABOUT
TO ENTER
YOUR
SHADOW.
ARE YOU
PLEASED
?



Y-
YES
...



I SAID...
ARE
YOU
PLEASED,
GIRL?







EVERY
HUMAN YOU
DEVOUR
INCREASES
YOUR
INTELLIGENCE.

FIND
BEAUTIFUL
HUMANS
AND DEVOUR
THEM. GROW
BEAUTIFUL
AND
BRILLIANT,
BIT BY
BIT.

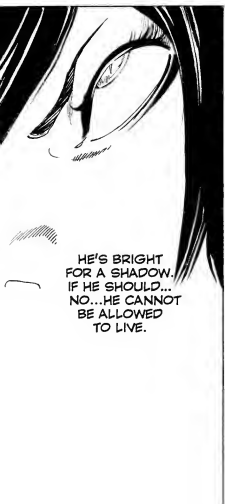
IF YOU DESIRE
THE PLEASURE
OF MY TOUCH,
DO SOMETHING
FOR ME--
SOMETHING GREAT.
IMPRESS ME,
AND FOR YOUR
REWARD, I WILL
GIVE YOU A PART
OF MYSELF.
CONSUME
BEAUTY...

...AND
GROW
BEAUTIFUL.

I'LL
DO IT!

EARN
THE
RIGHT TO
PLANT
YOUR
SEED
IN ME.

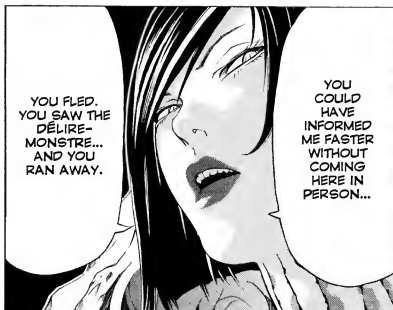
MAKE
YOURSELF
WORTHY
OF ME...





YOU SAW
HIM...

WHERE?



YOU FLED.
YOU SAW THE
DÉLIRE-
MONSTRE...
AND YOU
RAN AWAY.

YOU
COULD
HAVE
INFORMED
ME FASTER
WITHOUT
COMING
HERE IN
PERSON...



V
S
H
H



F-
FORGIVE
ME.

P-
PLEASE
FORGIVE
ME.



YOU
SAW
HIM?

THE
ISLAND
OF
SPHAEIN.

WITH
THESE
VERY
EYES!



WOW!
THAT'S
HOW I
WANNA
GO...

HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH.

DON'T
BE
DUMB.

VAPOR-
IZED!



SIZZLE

SIZZLE



WAT

SPLAT



OOOH
!

YEAH!

THAT'S
GOTTA
BE THE
SEED
FOR
SURE.

MINE!
MINE!

IS THAT
HOW
SHE
GETS
PREG-
NANT
?

OH--!

OH

AND YOU
SHALL
DRINK
THE SPIT
FROM
MY LIPS.

BRING ME
THE HEAD
OF THE
DRAGON,
MY PETS...



TOOT



WHAT?

GRAD,
CAN I
ASK YOU
SOMETHING?

TEE
HEE
HEE



TO
RESTORE
LE NOIR,
THE
WORLD
OF
DARK-
NESS.

WHY DO
YOU WANT
TO KILL
HER?

THAT'S
RIGHT.
SHADOWS
DON'T
AGE,
BUT
THEY
CAN DIE.



THE
SHADOW
YOU MEAN
TO KILL IS
OPSQUIRIA
THE QUEEN
OF DARK-
NESS...



THE
QUEEN IS
SUPPOSED
TO KEEP
THE
DESIRES
IN THE
DARKNESS
WITHOUT
HOLDING
THEM
HERSELF.

THE
BEASTS OF
DARKNESS
ARE MOSTLY
MADE OF
DESIRES...

THE
QUEEN...
CHANGED
THINGS.



SHADOWS
CANNOT
LIVE IN
THE WORLD
OF LIGHT
WITHOUT
TAKING
RESIDENCE
INSIDE
HOSTS...

AND
WHEN
OUR
HOSTS
DIE,
WE DIE
TOO.

THEN SHE
FORCES
HER DESIRES
ONTO HER
SUBJECTS,
PROMISING
THEY'LL
BECOME
"BEAUTIFUL."

BUT BIRA...
BIRA
TRESPASSES
IN THE
WORLD
OF LIGHT
AND SHOWS
HERSELF
IN THREE
DIMENSIONS.

TROUBLESOME
THINGS,
I RESENT.
BIRA'S
DESIRES
ARE NOT
MY
DESIRES...

I WANT
A TWO-
DIMENSIONAL
WORLD.

SHE
MAKES
HERSELF
A PARASITE
ON LIVING
BEINGS
HERE.



...!

YOU'RE
WAY BETTER
THAN ALL
THOSE
SHADOWS
COMBINED.



HER IDIOT
SUBJECTS
YIELD
TO HER
EVERY
WHIM.

...BUT
ONLY THE
QUEEN
CAN
GIVE
BIRTH.

FEMALE
SHADOWS
DO
EXIST...



NO.
THE QUEEN'S
SEAT WOULD
PASS TO
ANOTHER
FEMALE.

IF YOU
KILL
THE QUEEN,
WILL YOU
BE KING?

WELL,
I WASN'T
THE ONLY
ONE
TO OBJECT
TO THE
QUEEN.

OH.



THERE'S
MORE...



WHAT?!



!!

RAL,
BIRA SUCKS
UP THE
"AUBE,"
OR SOULS,
OF BEAUTIFUL
HUMANS...

THE
WOMEN
BECOME
EMPTY
SHELLS.

TO END HUMANS...?



THEN,
SHE
INTENDS
TO END
HUMANITY.

ONCE
SATED,
SHE'LL
CHOOSE
A MATE
AND
BREED...

SHE'S
SUCKING
UP AS
MUCH
BEAUTY
AS SHE
CAN...



DOES
THAT MEAN
NO MORE
GIRLS?



I SAW
HIM
GO IN
THERE.



THE
HUMAN
...

WITH
THE
DRAGON
...



...IS
DEATH!



HALT!

WE
CANNOT
LET
STRANGERS
PASS...

LEST
THEY BE
CARRYING
SHADOWS!

IF YOU
HAVE
DEALINGS
INSIDE,
WE CAN
TAKE A
MESSAGE.



THE
ONLY
THING
I DEAL...



I'LL
KILL HIM
AND
PLEASE
MY
LADY!

THE
DÉLIRE-
MONSTRE!
THE ONE
WHO
WOULD
BETRAY
LADY
BIRA!



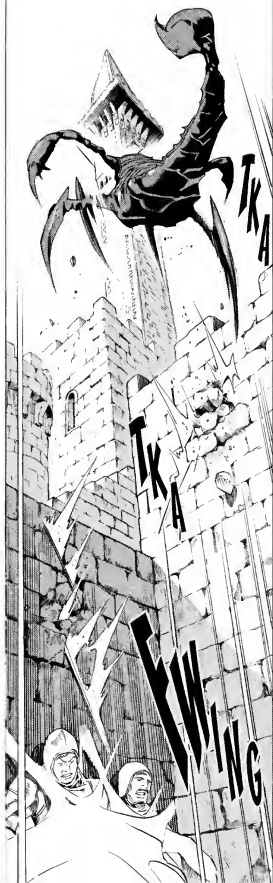
A
SHADOW
?!

A
SHADOW
HAS
BREACHED
THE
CASTLE!



HOLD
BACK
THE
BREACH!

SOMEONE
FIND
RAL!









RIGHT.
BUT HOW
MANY
SECONDS
HAS
IT BEEN
SINCE YOU
GOT HERE?

...

IT WOULD
TAKE YOU
THREE
SECONDS
TO BRING
OUT THE
DRAGON...

FROM THIS
DISTANCE,
I COULD
SKEWER
YOU
IN LESS
THAN ONE.

KILL
ME?
IS THAT
SOP

F
I
R
M

YOU
IDIOT.
HE'S BEEN
HERE THE
WHOLE
TIME...

WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?
I SEE NO
DRAGON.

?!
DOW DOW DOW





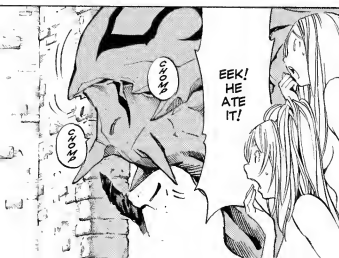
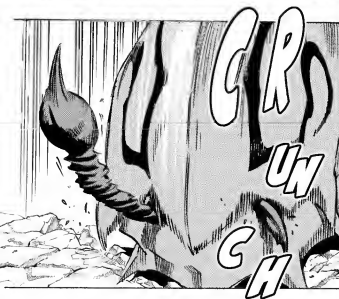


TELL US
WHERE
OPSQUIRIA
IS.

I-I
CAN'T
DO
THAT...

I...
I'VE FAILED.
MY POISON
WON'T WORK
AGAINST
THE DRAGON.
H-HELP ME...?







THE QUEEN
IS IN
JUGIL
CASTLE
IN THE
COUNTRY
OF KABIL..



BLECH.

THE COUNTRY
OF KABIL...
WHERE'S THAT?
DO I NEED
ONE OF THOSE...
WHAT ARE
THEY CALLED?
MAPS?



WELL,
I KNEW IT
WOULDN'T
TALK,
SO IT WAS
WORTH
A SHOT.



CLEVER.
I HAD ONLY
THOUGHT
OF KILLING
IT...

BUT I KNEW
WHAT IT WAS
THINKING
THE MOMENT
I ATE IT.

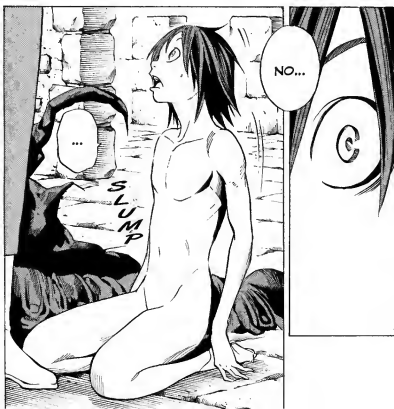
I GOT
A
SHADOW!



MISS
MIO!



RA!!



I WILL
NEVER
FORGIVE
THIS
QUEEN
!

TWO
WOMEN
KILLED...!!

GARR

ZHI ZHI ZHI ZHI

RRGH
...

I SWEAR
I WILL
PROTECT
WOMEN--
ALL
WOMEN!!

MISS MIO!

I'M GOING
TO THE
COUNTRY
OF KABIL!!

I'LL HAVE
MY REVENGE
ON THIS
QUEEN
AND ANY
SHADOW
WHO ATTACKS
WOMEN!

RAL...

ZHI

ZHI

KRK

KRK

GRRR



RalΩGrady

TALE3 Ready





THIS IS
VERY
DANGEROUS,
RAL.
DO YOU
UNDERSTAND?



IF
I TRY
TO DO
BOTH
AT ONCE
IT TAKES
EVEN
MORE
TIME...

I DO,
BUT WE'RE
GONNA NEED
SOME HELP.
IT TAKES
TIME TO
BRING OUT
GRAD AND
TRANSFORM...



...TIME AWAY
FROM
BOOBIES!!





THERE
MAY BE
ONE OR
TWO HERE
WE CAN
USE.

THESE
SHADOWS
WERE ALL
SEALED UP
AT THE
SAME TIME
I WAS.



I HEAR
YOU,
MISS
MIO
...

THIS
WORLD
IS BIGGER
THAN
BOOBS,
RAL!!



IF THERE'S
EVEN ONE,
WE'LL BE
LUCKY.



I MUST
PREPARE
MYSELF
FOR
DANGER...

GRAD!



OKAY,
ANY TIME
YOU'RE READY.
UNLOCK IT
AND THEN
GET BACK
AS QUICK
AS YOU
CAN.





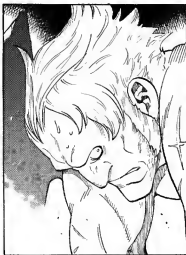


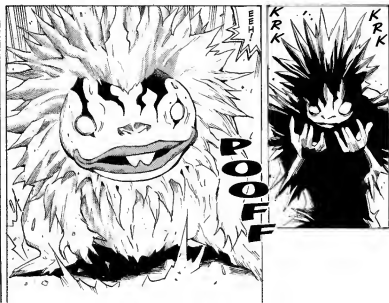
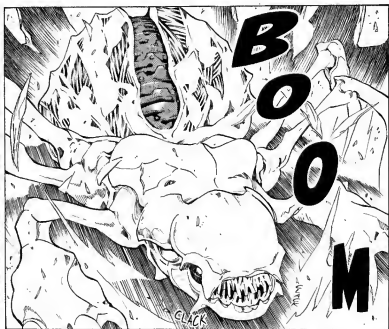
THAT ONE
LOOKS
STRONG,
THOUGH.



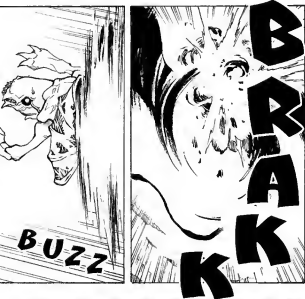
SHUUU...

THE
LIZARD ONE
DOESN'T
LOOK
PARTICULARLY
HELPFUL...













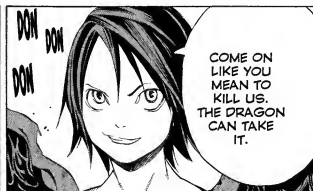


!

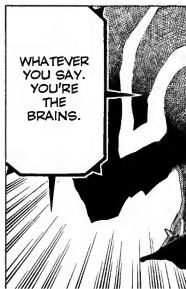
I WANT
TO SEE
WHAT YOU
CAN DO.
FIGHT US!



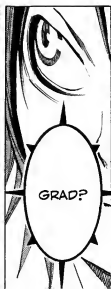
...VERY
WELL.



COME ON
LIKE YOU
MEAN TO
KILL US.
THE DRAGON
CAN TAKE
IT.



WHATEVER
YOU SAY.
YOU'RE
THE
BRAINS.



GRAD?



TO
KILL?!



GO!

K
A

B
O
O
M

K
R
K

K
R
K

OH,
NO...

I-IT'S
MOVING
THE
DRAGON
BACK...





WAIT, THE
DRAGON'S
NOT
FULL-SIZE
YET...



HE
TOPPLED
THE
DRAGON!

MALERO.

WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME?

MM.

GUF
GUF

WOW!
GOLBAGO'S
PRETTY
STRONG!
YOU GUYS
ARE GOOD.



STAY
HERE...

PROTECT
THE CASTLE
WHILE GRAD
AND
ME ARE
AWAY.

USE
THAT
SECOND
OVER
THERE,
TOO.



MALERO,
GOLBAGO...
THERE'S
SOMETHING
I WANT
YOU TO
DO--



WHAT IS
RAL SAY-
ING?

SECRET
PLANS?



JUST
ONE.



OH,
BUT
LISTEN,
MALERO...



TIT
FOR
TAT,
HUH?

YOU CAN
TAKE ONE
OF MY
GIRLFRIENDS--
BUT JUST
ONE!



I'M
SERIOUS!
DON'T
MAKE
ME KILL
YOU!!

THE NAMES
ON THIS
LIST ARE
OFF-LIMITS.

DON'T
GO
GETTING
GREEDY!



ALL RIGHT.
WE WILL STAY
AND PROTECT
THIS PLACE
BECAUSE
GOLBAGO
ALSO WISHES
TO SEE LE NOIR
RESTORED.

GUFF
GUFF

NIN NIN NIN NIN

UNTIL
THEN
...

WE'LL
BE BACK
AS SOON
AS WE
DEFEAT
OPSQUIRIA!

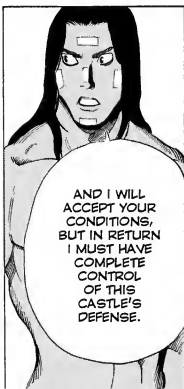


GOLBAGO...

DEAL.
AS OF
NOW, ALL
RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THIS PLACE
HAS PASSED
TO YOU.



DEAL?



AND I WILL
ACCEPT YOUR
CONDITIONS,
BUT IN RETURN
I MUST HAVE
COMPLETE
CONTROL
OF THIS
CASTLE'S
DEFENSE.



AGREED.
I LIKE YOUR
STYLE.



THE FACT
THAT IT
ATE ITS
HOST
MEANS
WE CAN'T
TRUST IT.

IT'S TOO
DANGEROUS
TO HAVE
SECONDS
AROUND.



H-HE
CRUSHED
IT!

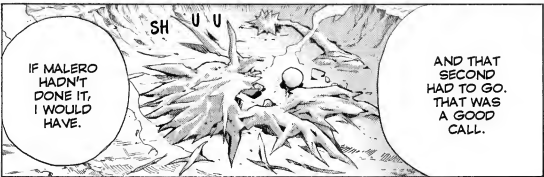
EW--!



BUT GOLBAGO
DIDN'T MAKE
THAT MOVE
AND MALERO
DIDN'T PUSH
HIM.

THE DRAGON
MADE IT LOOK
LIKE HE WAS
BEATEN AND
LEFT GOLBAGO
AN OPENING
TO FINISH
HIM OFF...

THAT PROVES
THAT GOLBAGO
REALLY DOES
WANT TO
REVIVE LE NOIR
AND THAT MALERO
UNDERSTANDS
AND IS WORKING
WITH HIM.



SH U U

IF MALERO
HADN'T
DONE IT,
I WOULD
HAVE.

AND THAT
SECOND
HAD TO GO.
THAT WAS
A GOOD
CALL.



THANKS.

GLAD
TO KNOW
I CAN RELY
ON YOU.

HE'S
GOOD
AT THIS...

GOOD
THINKING,
RAL!

HE WAS
LOSING
ON
PUR-
POSE...P



RAL,
THERE MUST BE
OTHER SHADOWS
LIKE GOLBAGO
AND ME,
SHADOWS
WHO WANT TO
SEE THE RETURN
OF LE NOIR...



HE SAYS
HE CAN'T
WAIT FOR
OPSQUIRIA
TO PERISH,
SO HE CAN
GO BACK TO
LE NOIR
AND
RAMPAGE
FREELY.

GOLBAGO
IS
PLEASED...



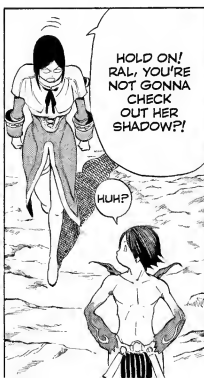
THAT
GIRL'S
THE ONLY
ONE LEFT
HERE...

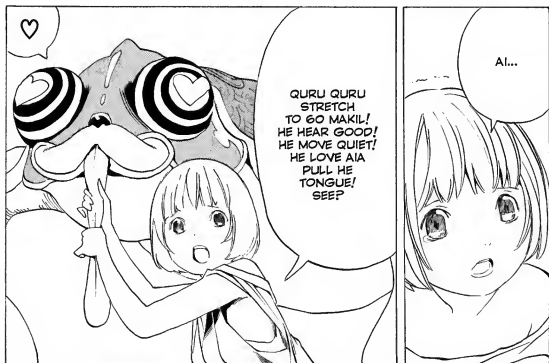
I DO.

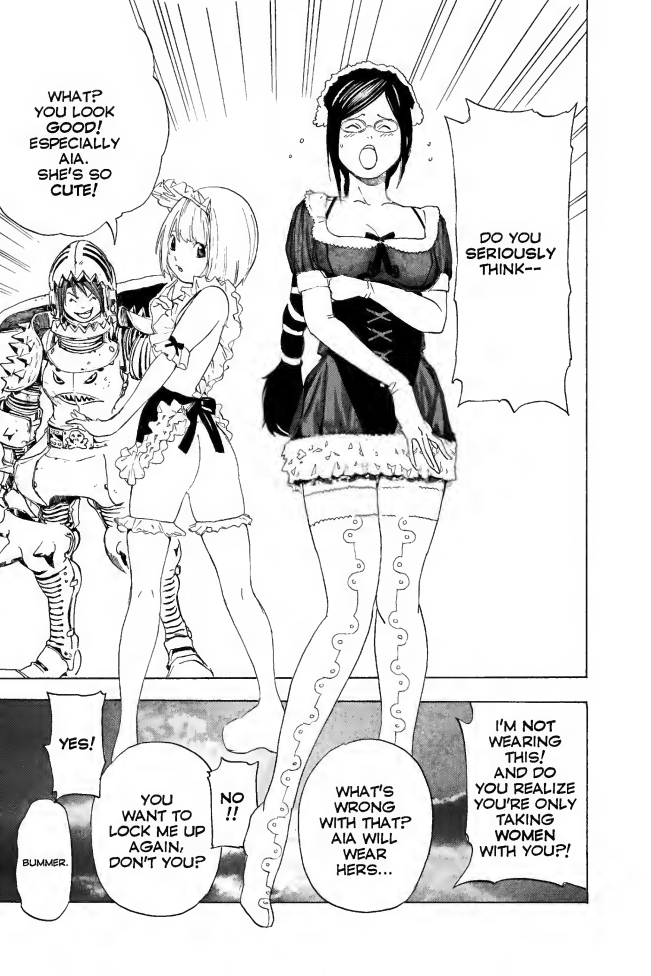
YOU
EXPECT
TO FIND
OTHERS?



SHADOWS
JUST A LITTLE
TOO SMART
TO DEVOUR
THEIR HOSTS.







WHAT?
YOU LOOK
GOOD!
ESPECIALLY
AIA.
SHE'S SO
CUTE!

DO YOU
SERIOUSLY
THINK--

YES!

BUMMER.

YOU
WANT TO
LOCK ME UP
AGAIN,
DON'T YOU?

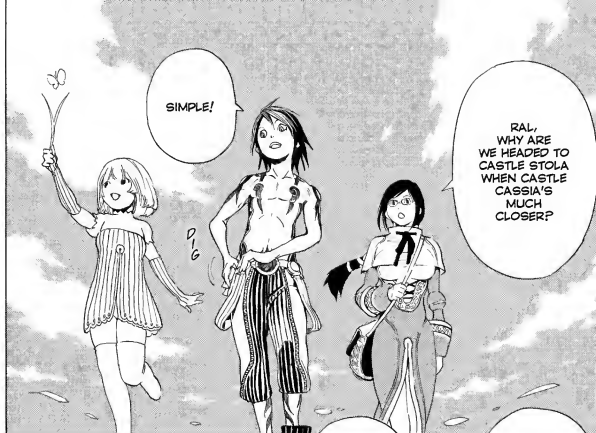
NO
!!

WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH THAT?
AIA WILL
WEAR
HERS...

I'M NOT
WEARING
THIS!
AND DO
YOU REALIZE
YOU'RE ONLY
TAKING
WOMEN
WITH YOU?!

RalΩGrach





SIMPLE!

DIG

RAL,
WHY ARE
WE HEADED TO
CASTLE STOLA
WHEN CASTLE
CASSIA'S
MUCH
CLOSER?



PRETTY!
PRETTY!

IT'S A
FLOWER
GARDEN,
RAL.

WOW,
LOOK!
IT'S
BEAUTIFUL!
SO MANY
FLOWERS!



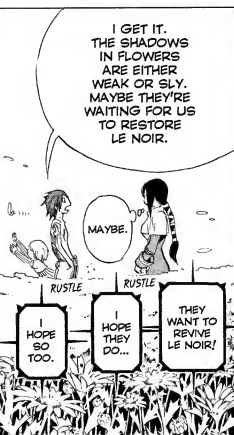
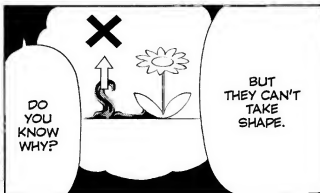
AND
THIS IS
PRINCESS
CASSIA.

THIS IS
PRINCESS
STOLA...



WHAT?!
YOU'RE
SERIOUS...

STOLA'S
BOOBIES
ARE BETTER.





WHY
NOT?

BECAUSE,
UM...

UM...
NO.

HERE'S
ANOTHER, RAL--
COULD THAT
BUTTERFLY
BECOME
A SECOND
OR A THIRD?



SHADOWS GAIN
ABILITIES THROUGH
CONSUMPTION,
BUT THERE'S
NOT MUCH
POINT IN EATING
A BUTTERFLY.
JUST AS WITH
PLANTS, THEY CAN
ENTER INTO IT
BUT THEY CAN'T
TAKE SHAPE.

LEMME
OUT!

?

BECAUSE, RAL,
IT WOULDN'T DO
THEM ANY GOOD
TO DEVOUR
A CREATURE
WITHOUT A BRAIN
CAPABLE OF
COMPLEX
THOUGHT.



A
KITTEN!

WHAT'S
THE SMALLEST
ANIMAL KNOWN
TO HAVE BEEN
A SECOND
OR THIRD?



HERE'S
ANOTHER
...

YOU'RE
GOING
TO FACE
MANY
SHADOWS,
RAL.
YOU MUST
REVIEW YOUR
STUDIES.

RAL,
I CHOSE
YOU AS A
BABE BECAUSE
I'D HEARD
YOUNG
HUMANS
MADE GOOD
HOSTS,
BUT I KNOW
ALMOST
NOTHING
OF
YOUR
WORLD...

WE CALL
THESE
RIDDLES,
GRAD.

NO!
LIKE
THIS!

AH!

HA HA!
YOU GOTTA
KNOW THIS
STUFF TOO,
AIA.

CORRECT!
WE'LL
DONE!

YES.
WE'VE GOT
TO AVOID
CAMPING OUT.
YOU'LL
BE TOO
VULNERABLE.

WE MUST
BE CLOSE
TO CASTLE
STOLA
BY NOW.

THAT'S
A
FLOWER
?!

PRETTY!
PRETTY!

WAIT...
THAT'S
NOT A
CASTLE,
IT'S A
GIANT
FLOWER!

PHEW
!

THERE
IT IS!

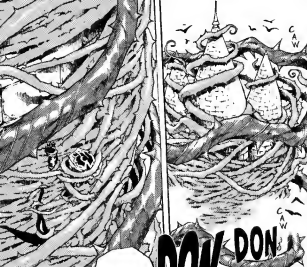


CAW

CAW

THAT'S
THE
BIGGEST
FLOWER
I'VE EVER
SEEN...

AMAZING!



W-WAIT,
IT IS A
CASTLE
...

THE
SHADOW
IS
PROTECTING
IT!

DON DON

DON



A
SHADOW
?!

RAL,
THAT'S NOT
A FLOWER.
THAT'S A
CHAÎNE LORD
SHADOW.

A
SHADOW
? WHAT
?



THWPP

QURU
QURU.

**DON
DON**

A
TRUCE
MAYBE?

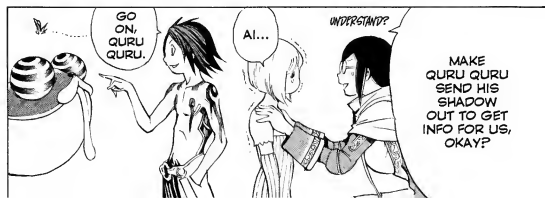
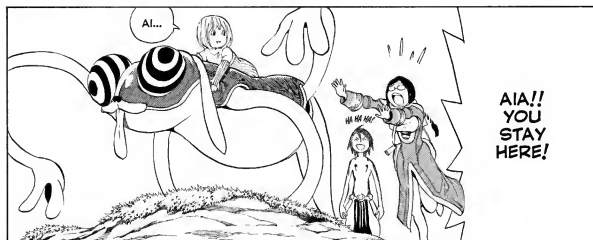
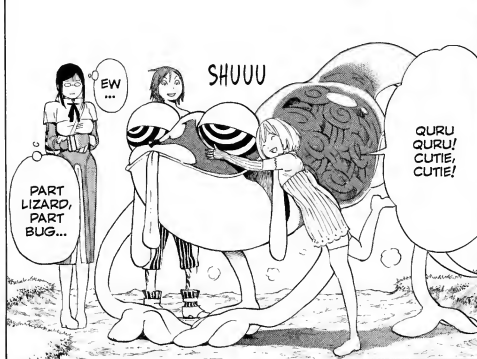


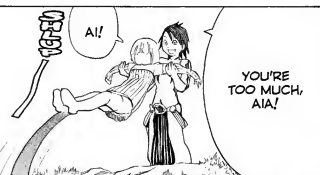
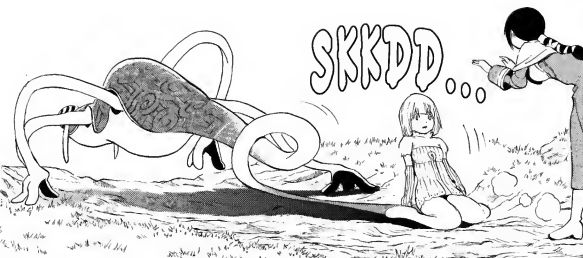
WHAT'S
HAPPENING?
THE HORDES
SURROUND-
ING
IT ARE AT A
STAND-
STILL.



Ai!

AIA,
BRING OUT
QURU QURU
AND SEE
WHAT YOU
CAN FIND OUT!
QURU QURU
SHOULD
BE ABLE TO
PASS AS
ONE OF
THEM.





YOU'RE
TOO MUCH,
AIA!



AIA'S
BEING
DRAGGED
ALONG
BEHIND
THE
SHADOW...



GURU GURU'S
AMAZING!
EVEN QUIETER
AND FASTER
THAN I
IMAGINED!

SA
SA
SA
SA



YOU WITH
THE BIG EYES...
COME ANY
CLOSER AND
I'LL STRANGLE
YOU.
I STILL HAVE
POWER
ENOUGH
FOR THAT
MUCH.

I FIGURED
A CASTLE
WITH A
BEAUTIFUL
PRINCESS
WOULD
HAVE A
SHADOW
PROTECTOR
AND I WAS
RIGHT!

YEP.

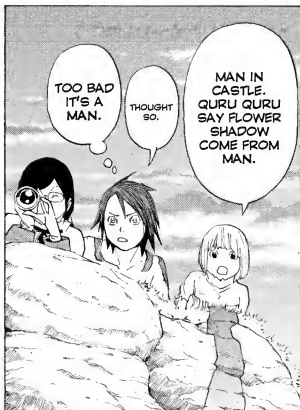
THAT'S
GOT
TO BE
CASTLE
STOLA.
NO TWO
WAYS
ABOUT
IT.



TOO BAD
IT'S A
MAN.

THOUGHT
SO.

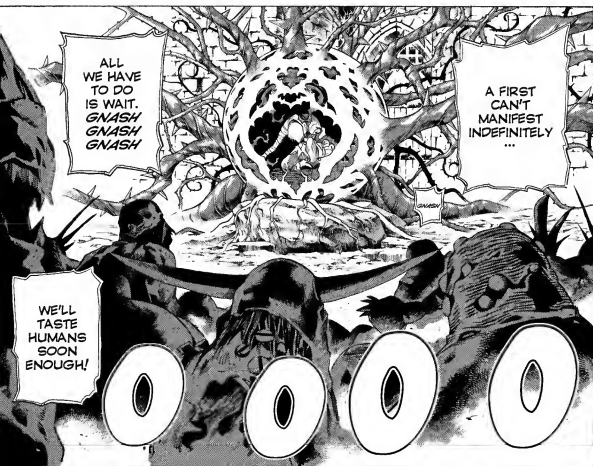
MAN IN
CASTLE.
QURU QURU
SAY FLOWER
SHADOW
COME FROM
MAN.



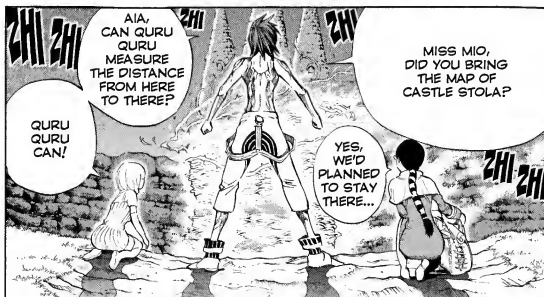
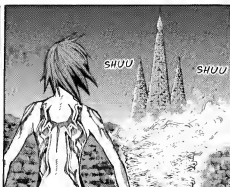
ALL
WE HAVE
TO DO
IS WAIT.
GNASH
GNASH
GNASH

A FIRST
CAN'T
MANIFEST
INDEFINITELY
...

WE'LL
TASTE
HUMANS
SOON
ENOUGH!









SHA

SHA

SHA

SHA



FLOWER
GO BYE
BYE!

QURU
QURU
SAY
6.4
MAKIL!

AIA,
WHAT IS
THE
PRECISE
DISTANCE
FROM
HERE
TO THE
ENEMY?

I AM!

MISS MIO!
YOU'RE
GOOD AT,
UM,
MATH,
RIGHT?

USE
THE
CASTLE
STOLA
PLAN...

6.4 MAKIL
TO THE
ENEMY
AND A
CASTLE
HEIGHT
OF 720 KIL.
CALCULATE
THE
DISTANCE
FROM HERE
TO THIS
POINT!

DON





DON DON DON

DON

SLK

GET
BIG,
GRAD!

VOLÉ-
QUEUE,
THE
FLYING
DRAGON'S
TAIL!

RAL,
WHAT
ARE
YOU--?





AS HARD AS
YOU CAN,
GRAD!

THAT'S
THE
TARGET!

6.97
MAKIL...



SHU
SHU

OMBRE-
BOUGÉ!
MOVING
SHADOW!

ZHU

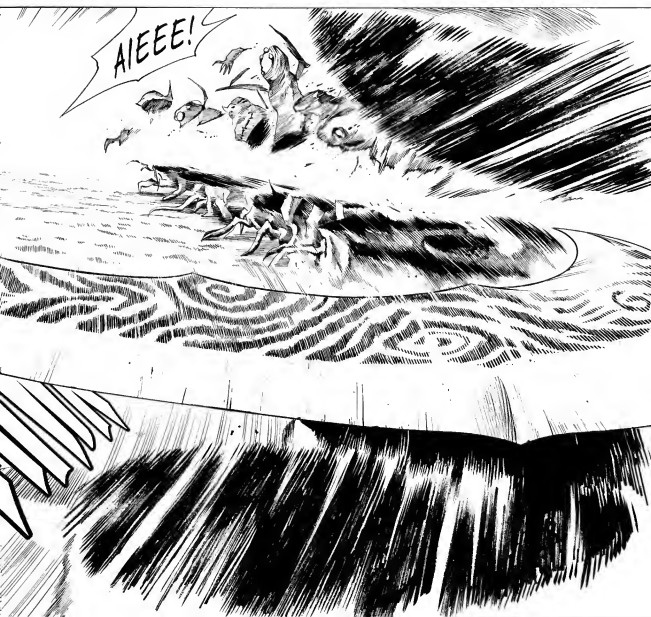




WAIT...
WRONG
DIRECTION!

HE FLUNG
HIMSELF
FORWARD
WITH THE
FORCE OF
THE DRAGON
FLICKING
ITS TAIL?!





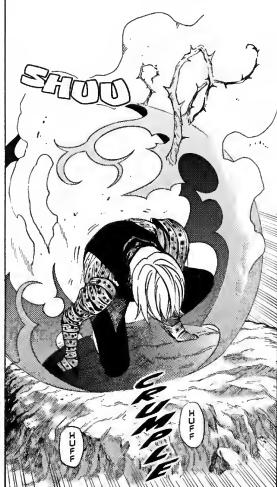


THE
TIP OF
THE
CASTLE!

NOW I GET IT!
HE'S USING
THE FACT THAT
HIS ENEMIES
ARE
SURROUNDING
THE CASTLE!!

BRILLIANT!
HE'S A
NATURAL
BORN
FIGHTER!



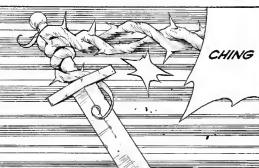


RalΩGrach



THAT'S
OKAY.
YOU REST,
KAFKA.

I CAN
HELP,
RAL.



ON
IT.

GRAD...





HEY!



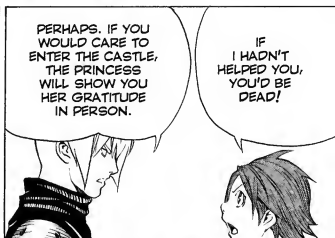
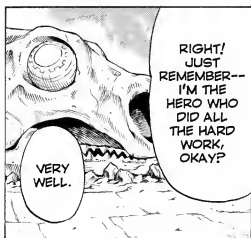
CRASH!

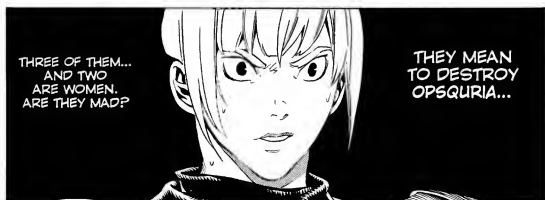
NO
FAIR,
KAFKA!

?!

...NO
FAIR?







YOU'RE
FIGHTING TO
SAVE HUMANITY
AND TO RETURN
GRAD AND HIS
KIND TO LE NOIR...
AREN'T YOU?

WHAT
AM I
FIGHTING
FOR
THEN?!

B
O
N
K

WHAT?!



DON

DON DON DON

DON

BOINK
BO

BOINK

RAL,
YOU DON'T
UNDER-
STAND...

S-SO, IT'S
ONLY FAIR
THAT I SHOULD
GET TO
SQUEEZE THE
ROYAL TITTIES...
ISN'T IT?!

PROBABLY...
AND YOU
ARE A HERO
FOR YOUR
DEED.

IF I HADN'T
SAVED HIM,
PRINCESS STOLA
WOULD HAVE
BEEN KILLED
OR GIVEN TO
OPSGURIA
AS A
SACRIFICE!

BOINK BO

BOINK

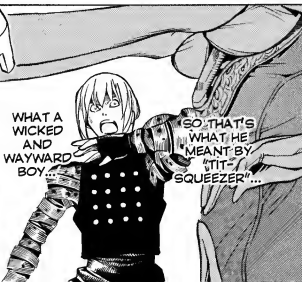
BOINK

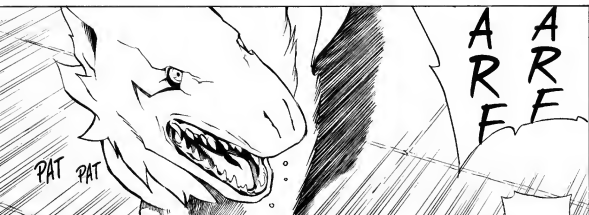
SHOULD
HE
PROPOSITION
THE
PRINCESS;
HE'LL SOON
THINK
BETTER
OF IT...

ALAS, IT
CANNOT
BE DENIED
THAT HE
SAVED US.
THE PRINCESS
IS OBLIGATED
TO THANK
HIM...

WHAT A
WICKED
AND
WAYWARD
BOY...

SO THAT'S
WHAT HE
MEANT BY
"TIT-
SQUEEZER"...









HE MAY
BE...

I DO
NOT
KNOW.

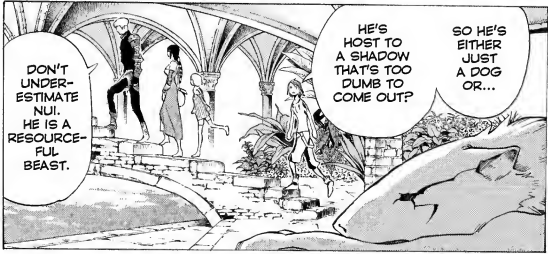
BUT
I HAVE
NEVER SEEN
HIM BRING
FORTH A
SHADOW OR
TRANSFORM.

...



SO,
NUI ISN'T
A HOST
HIMSELF?

YAWN
...



DON'T
UNDER-
ESTIMATE
NUI.
HE IS A
RESOURCE-
FUL
BEAST.

HE'S
HOST TO
A SHADOW
THAT'S TOO
DUMB TO
COME OUT?

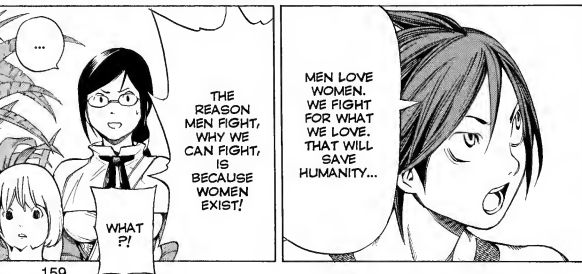
SO HE'S
EITHER
JUST
A DOG
OR...

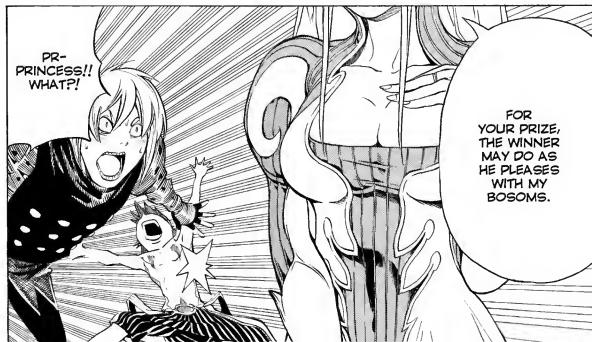
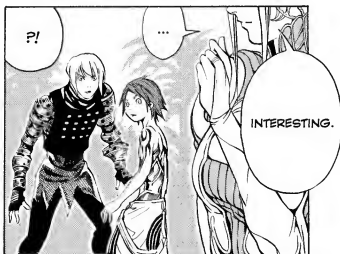


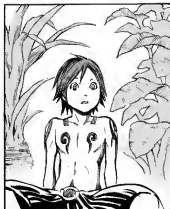
ENTER.

I BRING
THE ONE WHO
SAVED MY LIFE
TO SEE THE
PRINCESS.









IS SHE
TOYING
WITH
THEM?

WHAT
IS SHE
THINKING?



IT'S
NOT LIKE
IT SOUNDS!

ALL THREE
OF YOU
TO-
GETHER
?!

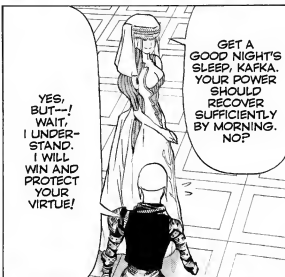
IT'S
DECIDED!
YOU
ACCEPT
THE
CHALLENGE.

LADIES,
SHALL WE
SNUGGLE UP
TOGETHER
FOR THE
NIGHT?



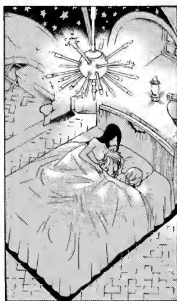
YES,
BUT--!
WAIT,
I UNDER-
STAND.
I WILL
WIN AND
PROTECT
YOUR
VIRTUE!

GET A
GOOD NIGHT'S
SLEEP, KAFKA.
YOUR POWER
SHOULD
RECOVER
SUFFICIENTLY
BY MORNING.
NO?



AND AFTER
15 YEARS
IN THE DARK,
RAL IS
AFRAID
TO EVEN
CLOSE
HIS EYES.
IT'S SAD...

WE CAN
NEVER GO
TO SLEEP
WITHOUT A
LIGHT ON
BECAUSE
OF THE
SHADOWS...





BEGIN!!

GENTLEMEN,
THIS IS
NOT A
BATTLE TO
THE DEATH.
FIGHT ONLY
UNTIL A
WINNER
IS DECIDED.
NOW...

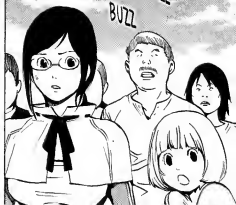
SURELY
KAFKA
DOESN'T
WANT
ANY PART
OF THAT!

FOR
BOSOMS
...?

ARE
THEY
REALLY
GOING
THROUGH
WITH
IT?

GONG-G!!

BUZZ
BUZZ





PRINCESS!
KAFKA!
TIME
OUT!

?!

OUR
OPPONENT
IS THE
DÉLIRE-
MONSTRE.
HE IS
ADEPT AT
DESTRUCTION.
I AM BEST
SUITED,
AS YOU
WELL KNOW,
FOR DEFENSE.
ONE IN TEN?

WHAT
ARE OUR
CHANCES,
RIZ?



IF HE
LOSES?
WHAT
IS HE
TALKING
ABOUT?

HA
HA
HA

IF I LOSE,
CAN I
HAVE NUI?
YOU KNOW,
THE DOG THAT
CAN SNIFF OUT
SHADOWS?



I'VE
NEVER
HEARD
OF SUCH
A THING.
AND NUI...

A PRIZE
FOR
LOSING
A BATTLE?



HOW
ABOUT
YOU,
KAFKA?

WHAT
DO YOU
SAY,
PRINCESS?



OKAY
WITH YOU,
KAFKA?

...



FINE.
CAN WE
PLEASE
GET
STARTED
NOW?

THANK YOU!
I KNEW
YOU'D
UNDERSTAND.

IF HE WINS,
HE FONDLES
THE ROYAL BOSOMS.
IF HE LOSES,
HE TAKES NUI.
CLEVER...



IF I LOSE,
I'LL LEAVE HERE
IN DISGRACE.
I'D LIKE TO TAKE
NUI WITH ME FOR
CONSOLATION.
HE'LL BE USEFUL
AGAINST OPSQUIA,
DON'T YOU
THINK?



...FINE!
I AGREE.



THE
PRINCESS
IS
WAITING,
KAFKA...

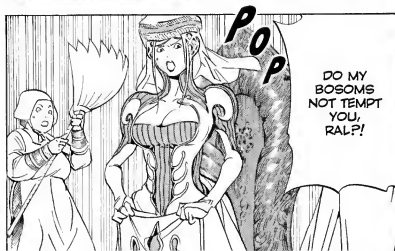


KAFKA,
IT'S JUST
A DOG.
LET'S GET
ON WITH
THIS!

WHICH
WILL IT
BE...?



THEN
LET'S
GO!!





BESIDES, KAFKA IS THE ONE WHO REALLY WANTS TO TOUCH YOUR BOOBS. WHY DO YOU THINK HE'S PROTECTING YOU?

OH, SURE, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL! BUT WHAT KIND OF PERSON SETS TWO GOOD GUYS AGAINST EACH OTHER?

NOT IF YOU'RE THE KIND OF PERSON I THINK YOU ARE.

HOW DARE YOU--?!



YOU'VE TAUGHT ME SOMETHING TOO-- JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE'S BEAUTIFUL, DOESN'T MAKE THEM GOOD.

MISS MIO ALWAYS LETS ME NUZZLE HER BOOBS WHEN I SLEEP. I'VE LEARNED A LOT FROM MISS MIO...

HOW MUCH MORE OBVIOUS COULD IT BE? HE'S PUT HIS LIFE ON THE LINE TO PROTECT YOU.

SWISH

I-I DEMAND YOU TAKE THAT BACK!

RAL...

...





SHADOWS!
THEY'RE
COMING
THIS WAY!

I KNOW THAT
FIGHT DIDN'T
TAKE MUCH OUT
OF YOU, KAFKA.
WHAT DO
YOU SAY?
SHALL
WE...?

BY ALL
MEANS,
RAL.
LET'S
DO.



RalΩGrach

DON

DON

DON

DON

DON



THEY'RE
NOT
ADVANCING.

MAYBE.
BUT LET'S
BE READY
JUST IN
CASE.

PERHAPS
THEY WERE
INTIMIDATED
BY THE
DRAGON.





THE
CHAÎNE LORD
IS NO SLOUCH,
MASTER CELTA.
IT WON'T BE
EASY TO GET
PAST THEM.

THE
DÉLIRE-
MONSTRE!
HE'S...
BIG.

WOW.
THEY MAKE
A GOOD
TEAM
ALREADY!





SO
THE ONES
IN HUMAN FORM
ARE IN CHARGE.
LET'S TAKE
THEM OUT
FIRST.

I CAN'T TELL
IF THEY'RE
PLANNING
AN ADVANCE
OR A RETREAT,
BUT THEY'RE
TALKING...



HUH?!

DASH

RAL,
WAIT!



THEY'VE
GOT
TO BE
THIRDS!

THERE'S
NO WAY!
NO HUMAN
COULD LEAD
A HORDE
OF SHADOWS
LIKE THAT!

WHAT IF
THEY REALLY
ARE HUMAN?
YOU'VE GOT TO
BE SURE BEFORE
YOU KILL THEM!



LADY MIO
MAKES A
GOOD POINT.
WE SHOULD
CONFIRM
THEIR STATUS
BEFORE WE
ATTACK.

YOU TOO,
KAFKA
?!

WOULD YOU
KILL THEM IF
THEY WERE
CUTE GIRLS?

...



ALARE



NEXT
VILLAGE
?!



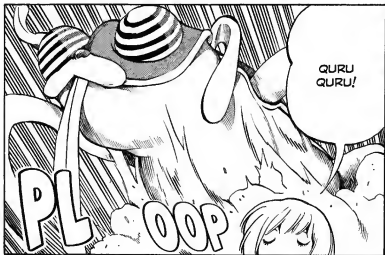
THE
LITTLE
ONE--
IS THAT
QURE?

FROM
THE NEXT
VILLAGE?
YEAH,
I THINK
SO...



IT BETTER
NOT BE,
"THAT GIRL
WITH THE
GLASSES
HAS SURE
GOT GREAT
TITS!"

THEY STILL
DO NOT
ADVANCE.
THEY'RE
SAYING
SOMETHING...

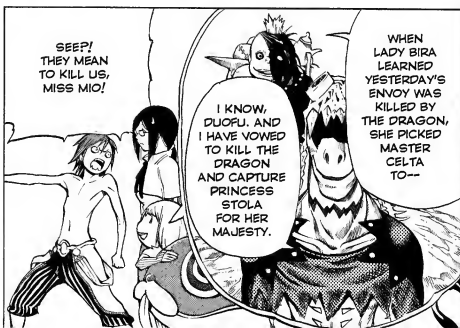


QURU
QURU!



QURU
QURU
HEAR
GOOD!

HEY,
THAT'S
RIGHT!
GOOD IDEA,
AIA.



SEEP!
THEY MEAN
TO KILL US,
MISS MIO!

I KNOW,
DUOFU. AND
I HAVE VOWED
TO KILL THE
DRAGON
AND CAPTURE
PRINCESS
STOLA
FOR HER
MAJESTY.

WHEN
LADY BIRA
LEARNED
YESTERDAY'S
ENVOY WAS
KILLED BY
THE DRAGON,
SHE PICKED
MASTER
CELTA
TO--





HERE
THEY
COME!



CORNES,
ADVANCE!



WE'RE
READY,
KAFKA!



NO,
I DON'T
THINK
WE DO.



GRAD,
I DON'T
THINK
WE NEED
YOUR
FULL
POWER
HERE...

R
O
A
A
A

W WH SH H

POSEA!

SZT

SZT

SZT

WA-
TERRR
!

WA-
TERRR
!

DOH

DOH

DOH

DOH



T SST!

WATER
?!







HOW
DOES
HE
KNOW
MY
NAME...?



JUST YOU
TWO AND
THE BIG FIRE
ENGINE LEFT,
CELTA!



POSEA!

SUNSK



WAH!

SUNSK



!!

BOOM



!

RAL,
I'VE GOT
THE LITTLE
ONE
!!





YOU
WASTE
YOUR
ENERGY
ON DUOFU.
HE'S NO
WARRIOR...
I WILL
NOT BE
SO EASY TO
DISPATCH!



TELL ME
SOMETHING...



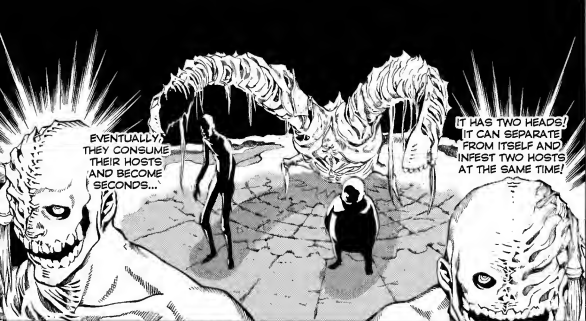
WAIT A
SECOND...



DUOFU...?
RAL,
THAT
SHADOW'S
A
DUOFURQUÉ!



HOW DOES
OPSQUIRIA KNOW
WHAT HAPPENED
HERE YESTERDAY?
HOW DOES SHE
GIVE YOU
COMMANDS
FROM ACROSS
THE SEA?



EVENTUALLY,
THEY CONSUME
THEIR HOSTS
AND BECOME
SECONDS...

IT HAS TWO HEADS!
IT CAN SEPARATE
FROM ITSELF AND
INFEST TWO HOSTS
AT THE SAME TIME!



I KNEW IT!
WHEN I HEARD
HE WAS FROM
THE NEXT VILLAGE
I KNEW THIS
GUY WAS
PASSING ON
INFORMATION!

SO
THEY'RE
AT LEAST
SECONDS,
HUH?



BUT
BECAUSE
THEY
REMAIN
THE SAME
SHADOW,
THEY CAN
STILL
COMMUN-
ICATE--
NO MATTER
HOW MUCH
DISTANCE IS
BETWEEN
THEM!



I WANT YOU
TO GIVE
YOUR QUEEN
A MESSAGE
FOR ME--



THE MOST
BEAUTIFUL!
PRINCESS
STOLA
PALES IN
COMPARISON.

OPSQURIA
IS A PRETTY
GOOD-
LOOKING
WOMAN,
HUH?



WHAT
IS IT,
DUOFURQUÉ?
NEWS OF
PRINCESS
STOLAP?

LADY
BIRA
...



THAT IS
TO SAY,
UM...

AND...
UM...

MY, UH,
MY OTHER HALF
HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY,
UM, GRAD'S HOST--
A HUMAN CALLED
RAL--

--IDIOT!





OH?



SPIT IT
OUT.

RAL SENDS
A MESSAGE
TO YOU...



SPIT IT OUT!



THAT IS
INTRIGUING.
WHAT IS
THE MESSAGE?

DON DON
DON

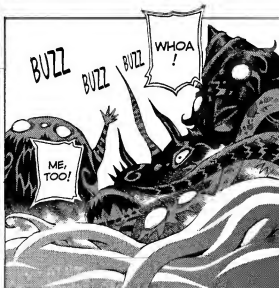
ON OUR
OWN,
WE WOULD
NEVER
PRESUME
TO--

P-PLEASE
UNDERSTAND
MY OTHER
HALF
IS UNDER
DURESS...

HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA



A-HEM.
HE SAYS,
"OPSQUIA,
QUEEN OF DARKNESS,
I AM ON MY WAY,
AND WHEN I GET THERE,
I'M GOING TO
TWEAK YOUR TITTIES!"
THEN, UM, SOME
DETAILS WITH REGARD
TO, UM, LICKING
AND SQUEEZING...





TELL HIM,
"I'M READY
AND
WAITING,
BOY.

"I'VE
COVERED
MY BODY
WITH THE
FINEST HONEY
IN STICKY,
SWEET
ANTICIPATION."

IS THAT ALL?

HOW'S
THAT?

NO, UM...
"WHEN I'M DONE,
GRAD IS GOING
TO KILL YOU."
TH-THAT'S ALL.

THANK
YOU
FOR THE
MESSAGE,
DUOFURQUÉ.

I WISH
TO SEND
MY
REPLY...



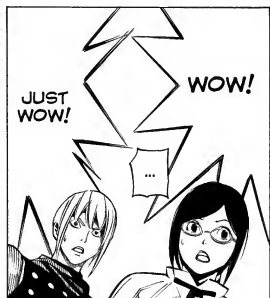


COME ON!
ARE YOU
JUST
GOING
TO STAND
THERE?!

LET'S
GET
A
MOVE
ON!!



STICKY
SWEET
HONEY?!



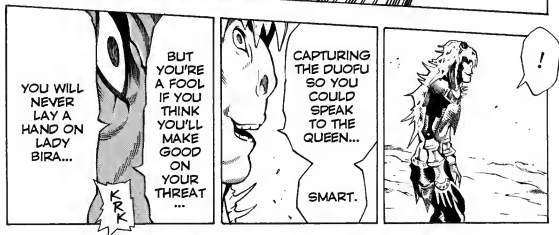
JUST
WOW!

WOW!



THERE'S
NO TIME
TO
WASTE!

THE
QUEEN
OF
DARKNESS
HERSELF
HAS
CHALLENGED
ME
DIRECTLY!



YOU WILL
NEVER
LAY A
HAND ON
LADY
BIRA...

K
K
K

BUT
YOU'RE
A FOOL
IF YOU
THINK
YOU'LL
MAKE
GOOD
ON
YOUR
THREAT
...

CAPTURING
THE DUOFU
SO YOU
COULD
SPEAK
TO THE
QUEEN...

SMART.

!



THAT'S JUST
THE SORT OF
EMPTY THREAT
I'D EXPECT
FROM A
HALF-BAKED
IDIOT THIRD.

ISN'T
THAT
IT?

"YOU HAVEN'T
GOT LONG
TO LIVE,
I ASSURE
YOU."



NOW
...

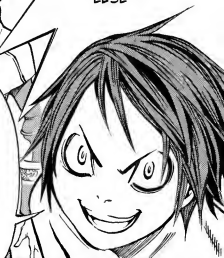
YOU
DIE!!



RAL,
THAT'S
THESSALIA,
A
HALF-HORSE
BEAST!
A-AND
IT'S
SOMETHING
ELSE--



I TOLD
YOU!
THAT'S A
HEAVY-DUTY
THIRD!



HE
ENJOYS
IT!

HE'S
MORE
THAN
GOOD
AT THIS...



I KNOW,
MISS MIO!
YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
SAY IT!



BUFFLE,
THE WATER
BEAST!
GRAD'S
GOING
TO BE--

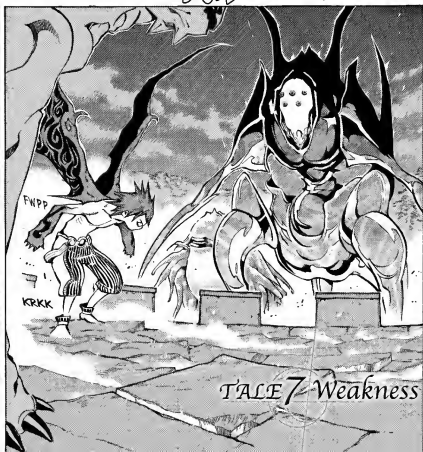
THAT
SHADOW
IS IN THE
SAME CLASS
AS YOUR
DRAGON!



PLAYTIME
IS OVER
!!



RalΩGrach



CLASH

CLASH

THE
BIG ONE
HAS
TO BE
A
THIRD!

HOLD
THE
FORTRESS,
MEN
!!

DON DON DON DON

SOMEBODY
GET NUI
TO CHECK
THE REST
FOR HIDDEN
SHADOWS!

AIA!
HAVE
QURU QURU
LOOK TOO!



GOT IT.



RAL,
YOU TAKE
THE THESSALIA
AND LEAVE
THE BUFFLE
TO ME!



ARF

ARF

ARF

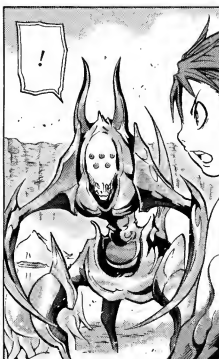
SLPP

SLPP

THE CASTLE'S SET
UP TO ALLOW FOR
LOOKOUTS, RIGHT?
JUST STAY CLOSE
TO THE CASTLE AND
KEEP A WATCH AS
LONG AS YOU CAN!

OKAY,
BUT--

RAL,
HOW
ARE WE
SUPPOSED
TO--



DO IT!
THE DRAGON
ONLY HAS
ONE FLAME
BLAST LEFT!

HE USED
FIVE SMALL
BLASTS
ON THE LITTLE
GUYS AND
ONE MEDIUM
BLAST ON
THAT GUY.

BUT IF HE
USES IT THE
DRAGON WILL
HAVE TO REST
AND IF WE'RE
ATTACKED
WHILE HE'S
RESTING,
WE'RE ON
OUR OWN!

THE ONLY
THING
THAT'LL
WORK
AGAINST
THAT GUY
IS THE FLAME...

RAL
--!

RAL,
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?
HE CAN
HEAR YOU!





I HAVE
ALREADY
WON!

HA HA HA
HA HA HA
HA HA HA
HA HA HA

WHAT?!

MY POWERS
ARE SUPERIOR
TO THE
DRAGON'S
IN A
CLOSE FIGHT...



STRONGER...

POP

KRK

FW
PP



I'VE ONLY
TO DODGE
ONE BLAST,
THEN MOVE
IN AND TEAR
THE DRAGON
TO SHREDS!

FASTER...
AND WITH
THE POWER
OF FLIGHT.

WINGS!

FMPP



IS
THAT
SOP?



?!



WITH MY
PARTICULAR
TALENTS,
IT'S JUST
A QUESTION
OF TIME
AGAINST
A DRAGON
WITH NO
FLAME!

I HARDLY
NEED
TRY...

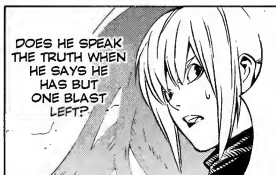
YOU DEFEATED
MEGANE
THE CENTIPEDE
USING THE
DRAGON'S
MANE,
BUT I AM
INVULNERABLE
TO THE
MANE...

SUUU

GET
READY,
GRAD!!



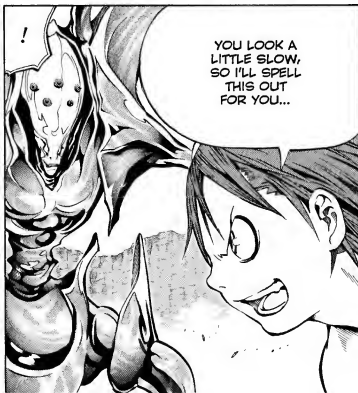
RAL
DOESN'T
LIE...
WHAT IS
HE UP TO?



DOES HE SPEAK
THE TRUTH WHEN
HE SAYS HE
HAS BUT
ONE BLAST
LEFT?



WHAT?



YOU LOOK A
LITTLE SLOW,
SO I'LL SPELL
THIS OUT
FOR YOU...



HE REALLY DOES
HAVE ONLY ONE
SHOT LEFT.
I WOULDN'T TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF
YOUR STUPIDITY
BY LYING
ABOUT THAT.



RAL,
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
?!

I'M AS
GOOD
AS MY
WORD
THIS TIME,
TOO.

IF YOU KNOW
ABOUT THE
CENTIPEDE,
YOU KNOW
I KEPT MY
PROMISE NOT
TO USE THE
DRAGON'S
FLAME--
AND I STILL
WON.



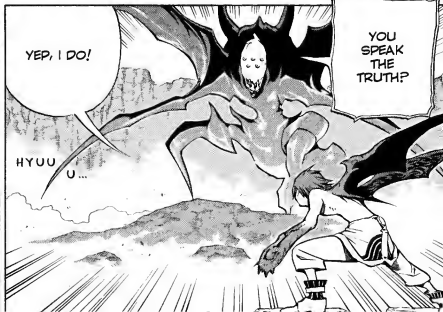
I CAN'T
INTERCEDE...
I HAVE MY
OWN BATTLE!

IF HE
DODGES...



THAT'S
WHAT
I WAS
WAITING
FOR!

GOOD
WORK,
KAFKA.



YEP, I DO!

HYUU
U...

YOU
SPEAK
THE
TRUTH?



DODGE
THIS!



READY
GRAD?

READY.

FWO
OM







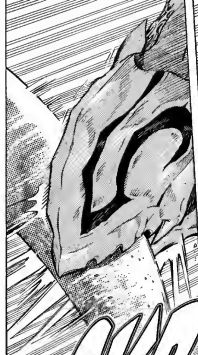
READY,
MEN!!



THIS
IS
BAD.

IT
MISSED!











WHEN GRAD
BLASTED YOU
THE FIRST TIME
YOU HID INSIDE
THE BUFFLE'S
BODY...

THE BUFFLE'S BODY
IS MADE OF WATER--
IT COULD PASS
RIGHT THROUGH
KAFKA'S DEFENSES!
BUT YOU KEPT
IT CLOSE BY...

THAT'S WHY
THE MANE
WON'T WORK
AGAINST
YOU!
IT WOULD
SLIP RIGHT
OFF...

YOUR
SURFACE
IS COVERED
IN OIL--

YOUR
WEAKNESS
IS FIRE!

DAMN
HIM...

...!



?!

I SAID
THE
DRAGON
HAD ONLY
ONE SHOT.



Y-YOU
SAID
YOU ONLY
HAD ONE
SHOT...



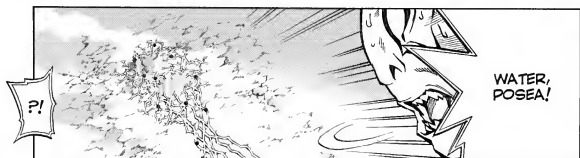
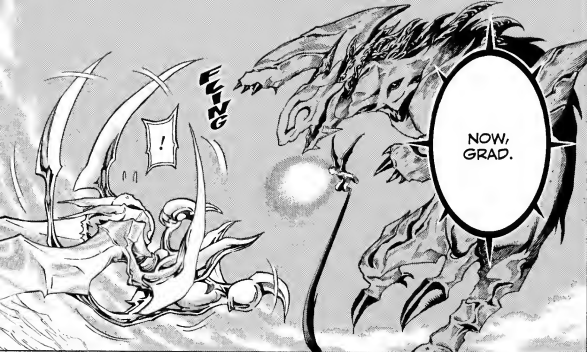
LOOK
CAREFULLY.
I HAVE
DRAGON
WINGS
AND
DRAGON
CLAWS,
AND NOW...



WHAT
?!



I'M
GONNA
BREATHE
FIRE!!

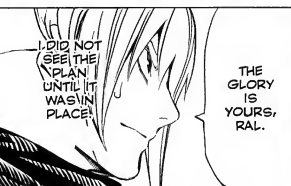




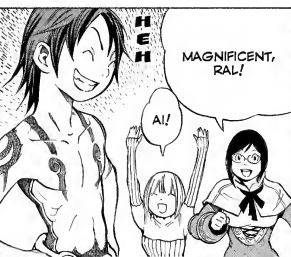
HA HA HA

BOOM

AARGH!!



THE
GLORY
IS
YOURS,
RAL.



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